

# QTH CALL

*The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.*

**OCTOBER 1995**



**FCC Highlights • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule  
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests  
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Reminder - all submissions for

**AUTO CALL**

are due no later than  
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# Regional Hamfests and Other Events

October 1	Pack Rats - Warrington, PA
October 14	47th Annual Hamfest/Comp Show, Augusta, GA
October 14/15	Memfest '95 Hamfest, Memphis, TN
October 15	Columbia Amateur Radio Association, West Friendship, MD
October 21	Ft. Venango Mike & Key, Franklin, PA
October 21	Tri-Cities Hamfest, Gray, TN
October 21	Hamfest, Sumter, SC
October 22	RF Hill Amateur Radio Club, Sellersville, PA
October 22	2nd Annual Ol-Fashun Hamfest & Barbeque, Monroe, NC
October 28/29	Hamfest Chattanooga 95', Chattanooga, TN
October 29	Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest, Westminster, MD
October 29	Penn Wireless Association, Newton, PA
November 4	Mobile ARC Computer Fest/Hamfest, Mobile, AL
November 11	Central PA Repeater Association, Hershey, PA
November 11	Hamfest, Eustis, FL
November 11	Twin Cities Hams Hamfest, West Monroe, LA
November 12	3rd Annual Hamfest & Computer Expo, Myrtle Beach, SC
November 19	WACOM, Washington, PA
December 2	15th Hamfest & Computer Show, Greensboro, NC
December 2	Hamfest, Okeechobee, FL
December 3	Central Atlantic ATV Network, Wilmington, DE
December 9	1st Annual Hamfest, Lake City, FL



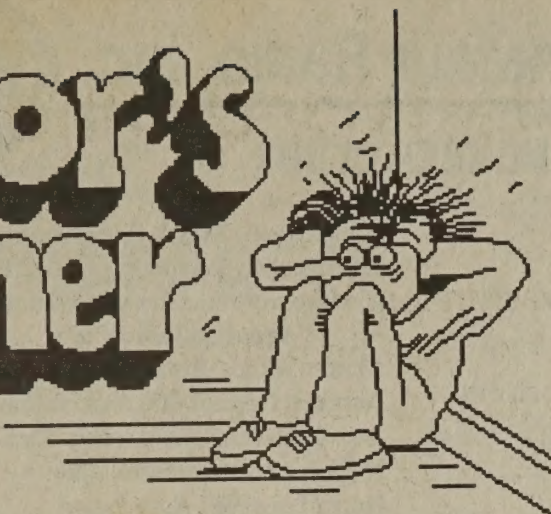
## On The Cover

Pictured on this month's cover of *Auto Call*, are Charles Church KA3COT (left) and Ken Easton N3HLY (right). Charles and Ken are shown here on the roof of the Red Cross building in Hyattsville, Maryland installing a Cushcraft A3S beam for the Prince George's Wireless Association club station K3CEZ. Both Charles and Ken are members of the Prince George's Wireless Association.



# Editor's Corner

By John Queen  
KAØSEY



I hate the metric system. Make no mistake about it. When I was growing up, I learned that 12 inches was a foot, 3 feet was a yard, and 5,280 feet was a mile. The English System of linear measurement was alive and well and living in the good ol' U.S. of A.

We'd hop in our cars and drive 2 miles to the store to buy a half gallon of milk for our 8 1/2 pound newborn baby. Today, if the metric-gods were to have their way, we'd all drive 3.2 kilometers to the store to buy 1.9 liters of milk for our 3.825 kilogram babies.

Enter Ham Radio. When I got my license 10 years ago, I learned new terms such as "two-meter" radios and "40-meter" beam antennas. Okay, okay. So now I had to deal with metrics. So dealt I did, but not very well.

Recently, a ham friend told me about his new 20 meter beam on a 70 foot tower. Now wait a hootin' hollerin' minute! What's wrong with this picture? Why do we have both metric and linear measurement here? Shouldn't it be one way or the other? I mean, if we're into metrics now, shouldn't it be a 20 meter beam on a 21 meter tower? Or, if it were my way, it would be a 66.66 foot beam on a 70 foot tower!

If we were going to go metric, then by golly by George let's go and get it over with. But I can't continue straddling the measurement fence of life being pulled in both directions.

Look all around you. A recent ad in QST proclaims "this is the world's smallest 2-meter radio, only 4" x 2 1/4" x 1" and weighs just 8 ounces!!" Hey! Catch a clue! Shouldn't they be using metric weights and measures?

The ARRL Antenna Handbook tells me that the correct length for my 1/2 wave 40 meter dipole antenna is 65 feet and 5 inches. But wouldn't it be a lot easier to remember that the correct length for a 65 foot 5 inch antenna is 65 feet 5 inches? Is it just me, or what?

After all, each of my two feet are exactly one foot long (since that is after all what it is, a foot). and it's a whole lot easier for me to measure the correct length of my antenna in feet with my feet in footage than to find a tape measure or worse yet, convert my feet footage to metric! Are you still with me?

I think we need some standardization here in amateur radio. Either go linear or metric - but not both at the same time. I say, let's all get back to the simpler way of life and deal in footsies and inchies. Let's turn the 80 meter band into the 264 foot band, convert all 40 meter beam antennas into 132 foot beams and operate our 70cm radios at 28 inches!!

Well listen. Enough of this measurement ponderance. I could ramble on forever, but I've got to get ready for the six foot, 6 and 7/32" net.

73's, de KAØSEY, John



# The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.



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## MEMBER CLUBS

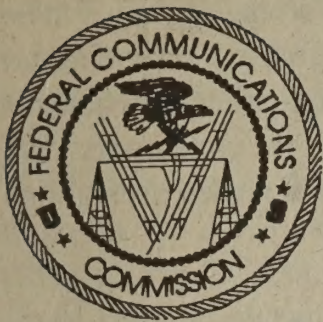
Adams County Amateur Radio Society  
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Vienna Wireless Society  
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club  
Waldorf Repeater Support Club  
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Assn.  
Washington Area Young Ladies ARC  
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

## NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held on October 11th in Takoma Park, Maryland at Columbia Union College, HMS Richards Bldg., Flower Avenue (Take beltway exit 30, South on Colesville Road to Franklin Avenue, left on Franklin to Flower, right on Flower to Carroll Ave., left on Carroll to Greenwood Ave., left on Greenwood to 2nd building.

**Talk-in on  
146.55**





## FCC Highlights

By Jack Kelleher.  
W4ZC

This month's column is devoted primarily to the Tandy proposal for a personal radio service. While this is not an Amateur Service per se, it is kindred to the Amateur Service. (In the past, the personal radio service has motivated many participants in that service to take an additional step into the Amateur ranks.) Also, this and a couple of other related proposals seek access to the spectrum by potentially millions of users without requiring operator or station licenses.

### Proposed Family Radio Service

What follows is based in part on the lead article in the W5YI Report for August 15, 1995, entitled "FCC Proposes UHF-FM Family Radio Service". We omitted or condensed some of the historical material for lack of space, and because we wanted to give full treatment to the current proposal.

According to the W5YI Report, the FCC first considered creation of a citizens radio service in 1945, driven in part by development and demonstration of a pocket-size UHF radio by Al Gross, W8PAL, and by the foresight of then-FCC-Commissioner E. K. Jett. This led to a Class "A" citizens band radio service in 1947, in the 460 to 470 MHz. band.

The FCC soon found that business use of the newly-allocated band far outstripped personal radio applications. Over the years there have been numerous adjustments in this region of the spectrum to accommodate changing patterns of use and demand. Today, there are only 30 channels available for the Class "A" personal radio service

— which is now called the General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS). There are 16 primary channels (8 in the 462 MHz band, paired with 8 in the 467 MHz band) and 7 additional pairs of interstitial channels interleaved between the "primaries".

A second approach to a citizens radio service occurred in 1957, when the FCC designated 23 channels in the HF band (26.965 to 27.255 MHz) for a Citizens Band radio service. In 1977 the authorization was broadened to 40 channels by adding 27 channels at the high end of the band; Channel 40 is at 27.405 MHz. Today, CBers number in the millions. Use of the band is undisciplined, and essentially unregulated.

A new phase began on July 20, 1994, when the Radio Shack Division of Tandy Corporation petitioned the FCC to create an unlicensed UHF-FM low-power 2-way Family Radio Service. The new service was to share the GMRS channels at 462 and 467 MHz.

Tandy said that parents will have an extra measure of security by using FRS to monitor their children at play. Families and friends will be able to maintain close contact at sporting events, shopping malls, parks and between vehicles during trips. Impromptu groups will be able to communicate conveniently using FRS for activities such as fund raising and social events. Tandy proposed 500 milliwatt radios operating on the 16 channels in the GMRS.

The FCC accepted the Tandy proposal on July 26, 1994, assigned it file No. RM-8499 and put the item out for a 30-day public comment period. In its petition Tandy had characterized the GMRS spectrum as unused and little used. Comments from the Personal Radio Steering Group (An Ann Arbor based GMRS user association headed up by Amateur operator Corwin D. Moore, Jr., WB8UPM) strongly disputed that claim. PRSG said also that alternative spectrum is available at 800 MHz.

*Continued next page*



The Uniden Corp. said that PRSG is fearful of an expanded user base or the more efficient use of GMRS spectrum.

REACT International (a CB association dedicated to public service) supported the FRS concept but opposed use of the GMRS spectrum — which they also use for their public service activities. REACT feared that the GMRS is not capable of handling the large number of additional users that would result from the Tandy proposal. They also fear that the GMRS 675 emergency channel pair (462.675 and 467.675 MHz, which must be used for travelers or emergency assistance) will be abused by unknowledgeable and unlicensed users.

Motorola supported the proposal, stating that the public interest is better served by the creation of a new, unlicensed personal radio service that offers consumers improved communications options in a cost effective manner.

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) forecast a potentially strong market for FRS with varying applications - - - - TIA argued that for the FRS to achieve broad market appeal it would have to be an unlicensed service.

Both Motorola and TIA agreed that there is a need for a low cost unlicensed very short range two-way voice radio service, and that technical standards can be established to adequately protect GMRS systems.

After studying the preliminary round of comments the FCC issued, on August 2, 1995, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WT Docket No. 95-102. The Commission said: "We believe that this service would provide most small groups, such as families, friends, and associates, with good quality voice communications over a range of a few city blocks. It would facilitate activities where members become separated, either planned or inadvertently. It would also be useful to hunters, campers, hikers, bicyclists, and other outdoor activity enthusiasts. It appears that technology can

make such a service very convenient to use and widely affordable. (The only costs to the user would be the cost of the FRS units, estimated to be \$100-\$150 each, and the cost of replacement batteries.) Further, FRS would create new jobs as well as provide more choices for consumers. We propose, therefore, to amend the rules to establish a Family Radio Service.

"Each channel would be usable simultaneously by many millions of small groups throughout the country. The technical standards proposed by Tandy should provide good quality communications over a range of approximately one kilometer.

A number of factors, however, limit the interference potential of these units. First, there is the line-of-sight propagation characteristic of frequencies in the UHF domain. Next, simple antennas that are an integral part of the unit, together with its very low transmitter power, will further restrict its range.

Another feature is the capture effect provided by FM emission types. (Capture effect is the phenomenon whereby the strongest signal received on a frequency is the only signal that is demodulated by a FM receiver tuned to that frequency.) We agree that selective calling would help enable this service to co-exist with the GMRS as well as make it possible for user groups to enjoy a modicum of privacy.

"Tandy, Motorola, and TIA state that for the FRS to be attractive to users, there should be no requirements for operator or station licenses. We agree. We can not foresee any regulatory purpose that would be served by requiring operator or station licenses in such a radio service. We propose, therefore, to establish the Family Radio Service within the Citizens Band (CB) Radio Service and authorize operation by Rule 307(e) of the Communications Act (which authorizes the operation of such stations without an individual license). We propose to regulate the usage of the

*Continued next page*



FRS units through technical standards and type certification. We propose to rely only upon four simple operating rules (covering eligibility and responsibility, authorized locations, types of communications, and equipment requirements.)

"We are not persuaded by the claim that unlicensed FRS units are incompatible with the GMRS. We believe that these two services can share certain channels successfully. We also propose technical standards similar to those requested in the petition and the comments.

The units would transmit frequency modulated voice emission type F3E only. The authorized bandwidth would be 12.5 kHz. The maximum power of the transmitter would be one-half watt. The antenna must be an integral part of the transmitter, have no gain, and be vertically polarized."

The FCC also asked whether any of the proposed technical standards need to be relaxed or tightened, and whether other standards should be included in the rules. The Commission did not propose to permit telephone interconnection (phone patching) but asked whether it should be permitted, and if so, what restrictions or conditions that should be imposed. Selective calling is not required, but is allowed as an FRS option.

The deadline for comment is October 2, 1995; for reply comments, October 16.

## "Wireless Internet?"

Two petitions have been filed with the FCC during recent months for a radio service which would be accessible using equipment from any supplier and available to anyone without licensing or air-time charges. (emphasis added). Both have been released for comments.

The petition filed by Apple Computer (See RM-8653) asks for allocation of a "NII Band" in the 5 GHz area (NII stands for National Information Infrastructure). The allocation would be for high speed data communications for schools, libraries, community groups, individuals, businesses and institutions. It visualizes community networks resembling Amateur packet networks.

The other petition was filed by the Wireless Information Networks Forum (WINForum) and carries the FCC identification RM-8648. According to the W5YI Report for August 15, WINForum's filing appears to be concerned mainly with indoor, wireless LAN, and cordless telephone operation.

The W5YI Report includes a sampling of positive and negative comments on both proposals from the ARRL, Apple Computer, the Center for Democracy and Technology, the Federal Aviation Administration, Metricom, Microsoft, the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California, Bruce Perens, the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association, and WARP Speed Engineering.

### **Cobb Island, Maryland - Special Event Station**

The Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club will operate W13A from 1500Z to 2100Z on October 29th to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the first AM transmission. Operation will be in the lower portion of the General 40, 20 and 15 meter phone subbands and in the Novice 10 meter phone subband. For QSL send QSL and SASE to Southern Maryland ARC, P.O. BOX 273, Clinton, MD, 20623.





# American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford,  
W4HU

*The ARRL Report provides a brief summary of information published in the ARRL LETTER and other reports. The LETTER provides timely news of interest to active Radio Amateurs. Any League member may subscribe to the ARRL LETTER.*

## United Nations plan would include amateurs

Amateur Radio has been included in a draft United Nations position on emergency communication. Late in July, the ARRL was represented at a meeting of the Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications (WGET) of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs.

The WGET's primary mission is to bring about an "International Convention on Emergency Telecommunications," inspired by a 1991 UN study that found an "urgent need to improved international cooperation in communications and enhance national communications capabilities in order to reduce loss of life, damage to property and livelihoods, and damage to the environment caused by disasters."

The study identified barriers to this goal, including organizational roadblocks to the flow of information; uncertainty over the availability and location of communication equipment that could be made accessible for disaster use; regulatory barriers that slow down the importation and operation of communication equipment; and

equipment cost considerations.

One of the ways proposed to overcome these barriers is to "encourage the development of the amateur radio services and their application to disaster communications."

At the meeting (attended by ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE), the group agreed on a draft that would "encourage the development of decentralized means of telecommunications such as, but not limited to, mobile and portable satellite terminals and the amateur radio service(s) and their application to disaster communications," and also concluded that preparedness is a condition of response effectiveness, justifying the development of decentralized communication support mechanisms such as Amateur Radio.

## New agreement unveiled

Palm provided WGET participants with copies of a new operational agreement between the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs and the ARRL, "which will raise the visibility of Amateur Radio before these agency representatives," he said.

At the World Telecommunication Development Conference in March 1994 (reported in June 1994 QST, p 99), the Amateur Service received strong support from the spokesman for the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA), Hans Zimmerman.

Subsequent contacts between the ARRL and UNDHA have included a visit to Newington by Zimmerman earlier this year, a meeting with him and ARRL International Affairs Vice President Larry Price, W4RA, and Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, as well as at the WGET meeting.

The result of these discussions was a working-level agreement between ARRL Headquarters and

*Continued next page*



UNDHA—Geneva to keep informed about their respective activities in emergency telecommunication; to establish operational procedures for the sharing to information about sudden disasters; and to provide cooperation and mutual support consistent with these objective.

### **Moves in Congress seem to spare Hams for now**

US Senate and House bills aimed at overhauling the country's telecommunication structure and regulation appear, at least over the short term, to have comparatively minimal impact on Amateur Radio according to ARRL Manager of Legislative Affairs Steve Mansfield, N1MZA.

Despite cries by some groups that all radio spectrum ought to be turned over to commercial interests, the 104th Congress has targeted cable regulation, telephone company regulation, and broadcast ownership issues as the focus of its ambitious effort to rewrite the Communications Act of 1934.

That Act provides the legislative framework for all regulation of radio communication in the US today, and has been said by many to be long overdue for massive rewrite.

Writing in September QST, Mansfield said "The resulting 221—page Senate bill, S. 652. 'The Telecommunication Competition and Deregulation Act of 1995,' and its House companion, H.R. 1555. 'The Communications Act of 1995,' both are being touted as removing barriers to competition for telecommunication interests.

Perhaps equally important (at least for hams), the degree of energy and effort put into the two bills could ultimately head off some of the more mischievous attempts at spectrum deregulation, at least for the remainder of the 104th Congress.

S.652 slightly modifies the rules for who may administer license exams, and calls for the FCC to eliminate "burdensome record maintenance"

requirements for volunteer examiners.

"Some hams have expressed concerns about delicensing provisions of the bill, but those affect only certain marine and aviation users, as well as users of the new PCS systems" Mansfield said.

Mansfield said that from a long-term perspective, the biggest concern lies in the continued expansion of the spectrum auction concept, and that amateurs "will have to become accustomed to fighting harder for spectrum than we have done in the past."

ARRL's congressional activities will continue to reflect the formal legislative positions adopted by the League's Board of Directors at its January 1995 meeting, Mansfield said.

Mansfield's complete story appears on page 50 of September QST.

### **First Requests are in for 219–220 Operation**

The ARRL has received 30 requests for the Form 219A kit, to be used as notification of planned operation at 219 to 220 MHz. Three requesters so far have registered 34 planned transmitters (30 in Northern California, 2 in Nevada, and 2 in Illinois). The next step in the process is obtaining permission from nearby Automated Maritime Telecommunications System (AMTS) operators.

### **Maryland Amateur Helped Relay End-of-War Message**

The young US Army Signal Corps sergeant who helped relay the "end of the war" message on August 14, 1945, is an Amateur Radio legacy and a current active ham.

Sgt Richard Zucker, today KB3YM of Ellicott City, Maryland, was a radio operator with the 3116th Signal Service Battalion at WTJ Radio Control on Oahu, Hawaii. At 2314Z, the 21-year-

*Continued next page*



old radioman received a teletype message from the Pentagon station WAR near Washington and relayed it to General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines. The message announced the Japanese capitulation, signifying the official end of World War II.

Zucker grew up in an Amateur Radio family in Mt Vernon, New York. His father, also named Richard, was on the air in 1913 with a kilowatt spark rig and a "self-assigned" call sign: 2DB. Zucker was in the Signal Corps in World War I.

Young Richard enlisted in the service in 1942 at age 18 and was assigned to the Signal Corps because he already knew the Morse code. He took his amateur license exam in 1944 while stationed in Honolulu and was assigned his first call, W2QKT, in 1946.

After the war, Sgt Zurker earned a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Today, he is active both on the amateur bands and in the Military Affiliate Radio System, as AAR3EO. His wife is Doris Jean Hauck.

### Briefs

\* Don't forget that ARRL's Hiram Percy Maxim Birthday Celebration returns for a second running September 2 to 10. Here's a clarification to the rules that appeared on page 58 of August QST: only volunteer examiners affiliated with the ARRL/VEC are eligible to sign /126."

\* Astronomer and author Cliff Stoll, K7TA, has been named to the advisory board of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) League (an article on this group appeared in August QST).

\* As always, the deadline for submissions to appear in the next DXCC Annual List is the last working day of September, the 29th. Your timely submission will ensure you're on the list to receive the DXCC Yearbook in early 1996.

\* The International Amateur Radio Union has voted to membership Burkina Faso and Turkmenistan, bringing the number of member societies to 146.

\* A recent (April) Silent Key was Dick Pothier, WB3CNC, of West Townshend, Vermont. Pothier, 55, was a staff writer for the Philadelphia Inquirer when he received a heart transplant in 199. He subsequently retired to "a log cabin beside a creek," said the Inquirer in a story following his death. After his transplant, Pothier by chance met two other transplant recipients on a local Philadelphia repeater; one of them, Joe Pearlstein, NU3Y, reports that he and the other one, Joe Reimann, WA2Znm, are doing fine.

Pothier wrote about his transplant in an article published in the Inquirer in 1989 and later reprinted in Reader's Digest.

\* The ARRL has filed supplemental comments requested by the FCC in ET Docket No. 94-124, concerning the use of certain frequencies above 40 GHz. The FCC wanted comments on the desirability and feasibility of harmonizing its earlier proposals in this proceeding with a table of frequency allocations developed by the European Radiocommunications Committee (ERC) of the CEPT.

League comments supported the creation of a secondary amateur allocation adjacent to the 47.0 to 47.2 GHz primary/exclusive allocation that amateurs gained at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference.

\* The Federal Communications Commission has assigned RM-8677 to an ARRL petition for rule making, to implement US participation in an "International Amateur Radio Permit" covering countries in the Western Hemisphere.

The comment deadline on this matter is August 31, 1995. The reply comment deadline is September 15, 1995. More information was in the previous Letter.



# Ham of the month *CRITERIA*

The following guidelines are for nominations for FAR Ham Of The Month

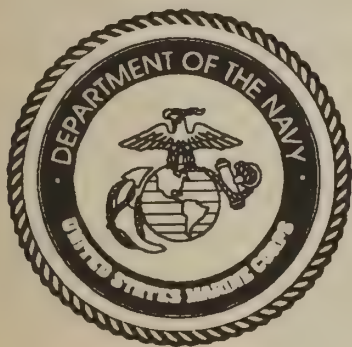
**QUALIFICATIONS:** ANY licensed Amateur in the greater local area who has contributed significantly to the Amateur service or its image in the community.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION:** 1. Name, call and address of the nominee. 2. Description of the contributions which have been made by the nominee. 3. Name, call and phone number of person/s making the nomination.

**FORMAT.** Narrative form is preferred. We would like the finished article to be no less than 250 words and no more than 500. In some cases the FAR nominating committee may be in touch with the person who submits the nomination, for more information or for clarification.

**AWARD PRESENTATION:** Whenever possible, Ham of the Month awards will be presented by a FAR representative at a local club meeting of special activity.

There are over 70 clubs within the Foundation and there are hundreds of "special" people deserving of recognition. Send your nominations any time throughout the year. Selection of one candidate will be made in any given month and additional nominations may be held for consideration in a later month. Please send all nominations to the committee chairman Tony Young, WA3YLO - 12016 Long Ridge Lane, Bowie, MD 20715.



## Needed: A Few Good Men and Women

(Like about 80) to provide medical/support  
communications via ham radio for the 20th annual . . .

# Marine Corps Marathon

0530-1530 (+/-) On Sunday, October 22nd

To volunteer, contact the Marine Corps Marathon sign-up voice mail number at  
**(703) 741-3552**

This Will Be The Biggest Marathon Ever, So Lots of Help Is Needed!!





## Elmer's Corner

By Paul E. Wilkins,  
AB4CY

### STARTING WITH A SPARK

"Sparks" was the nickname given to shipboard radio operators because sparks were a tool of his trade. Hertz had shown (about 1888) that a current oscillating in an electric circuit resulted in the radiation of energy. His first detector was a resonant circuit with a spark gap where when he turned on his generator, a spark would jump across the spark gap, proving that energy was being transmitted between the two. Incidentally, he also showed that these oscillations were reflected by metal and refracted by dielectrics.

It didn't take long for experimenters to begin trying their hand at generating larger amounts of power in the resonant circuit. The brute-force method was to discharge a large current into a tuned circuit. This was done by attaching an AC generator through a spark gap to a coil and condenser tuned circuit.

When the generator wave form reached the spark gap breakdown potential a spark jumped the gap and conducted current to charge the capacitor. While the spark jumps the gap the spark oscillates at the circuit frequency, but it wasn't observable because it was in the tens of kilohertz frequency range. It took a lot of cut and try to learn the mechanics of tuning and wave forms.

Nikola Tesla was the grand champion of generating high voltages using spark gap drivers. By 1899, he had his coils generating tens of millions of volts and had succeeded in showing that the radiation traveled around the world. One of his ideas was for everybody in the world to have

an electric clock driven by a synchronous motor that picked up its drive energy and standard frequency with an antenna tuned to his field frequency. All world clocks would read the same.

In 1901, Marconi succeeded in sending a recognizable signal across the Atlantic ocean. By this time larger and higher frequency motor generators were designed. In order to generate ever higher frequencies the number of poles and the speed were increased to the limit where some ran upwards of 100 thousand RPM.

To limit spark gap burning, the rotary gap was devised. This was a toothed metal wheel that rotated between two fixed electrodes so that the spark jumped between a number of electrodes per revolution and didn't get so hot.

The first "amateurs" were spark operators. Their "rigs" generated broad-band noise signals. It is said that you could recognize "George" by the whine of his note in your receiver. The whine was due to a particular combination of generator and gap he used.

Modulation wasn't invented until around 1902 and it was a while before it was introduced, so the first radio was strictly CW. Since these systems were brute force some of the keys were monsters because they were switching on and off lots of power and you had to be careful to keep away from the high voltage. I have seen several "keys" that were more than a foot long.

Spark gaps generate Ozone when they operate, and they are noisy. Maybe that's why they went into a "shack" out back where they weren't so obnoxious. Regardless, by 1910 hams had regular contacts of hundreds of miles, and transcontinental relays of messages were possible.

The second R in ARRL stands for relay which was an early ham development. World War 1 put a stop to ham activities and following when hams were allowed back on the air on October 1st, 1919

*Continued on next page*





## Traffic Fun

By Geri Sweeny,  
N4GHI

BALTIMORE: Rosie, N3IVO, called to say that many traffic handlers from the Baltimore area read *Auto Call* and would like to hear from anyone wishing to send a message. They can either send the message for you, or give you assistance on how you can do it.

The VA Beach Amateur Radio Club has established an award - an 'Elmer Certificate'. This is for any 'Elmering' in amateur radio.

There can be no finer training in traffic handling than becoming an apprentice to a good traffic handler, just a local phone call away.

If your Elmer doesn't know the answer to a question and/or procedure, he or she will know who to ask.

Rosie's evident enthusiasm about traffic handling, combined with her friendly, lively, melodious voice (on the phone), should give anyone motive to send a message. The following folks in the Baltimore area await your call to help

with traffic handling and/or sending a message:

N3VEJ	Doug, Parkville	256-0257
WJ3R	Gordon, Severna Park	647-2956
K30RW	Jim, Taneytown	751-1676
N3VBJ	Jerry, Dundalk	284-6117
K3CY	Buck, Rivera Beach	255-0896
N3IVO	Rosie, Baltimore	744-4362

### MARYLAND/DC TRAFFIC NETS

6 PM	MEPN (MD Emergency Phone Net) 3920 kHz
7 & 10	MDD (MD/DE/DC Net) 3643 kHz
7:30 PM	MSN (MD Slow Net) 3717 kHz
6:30 PM	BTN (Baltimore Traffic Net) 146.670 MHz

The Baltimore Traffic Net is almost new (under six months). Being almost new, it's looking for check ins and traffic.

Since it's a 2 meter net, it's accessible to most amateurs. The BTN wants to hear from you. If you don't know how to send a message, check in and tell the NCS (Net Control Station) that you need help. It's as easy as that.

by N4GHI/STM VA

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### *Elmer's Corner, from page 14*

manufacturers of spark equipment couldn't keep up with the demand and on-the-air conditions were described as "bedlam". Fortunately vacuum tubes came into popular use and went a long way toward cleaning up emissions.

The first conference to determine frequency assignments and emissions was convened in 1924. It was called to establish some order in what had become a chaos of Government, Commercial, and

ham stations without any frequency, power or signal standards.

If you have an AM radio in the kitchen tune it between stations and open the refrigerator door and then close it. When the light switches off as you close the door, bet you hear a "pop" on the receiver. That light switch is your own little spark transmitter.



# Public Information Coordinator



## Maryland/DC Section

by Bob Bradt- K2EB  
MDC Assistant Section  
Emergency Coordinator

### SET '95

Each fall, the public service minded Amateur Radio community participates in a Simulated Emergency Test (SET). As the name implies, SET is an exercise which simulates a wide spread disaster requiring the participation of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), and often the National Traffic System (NTS), in support of various served agencies such as the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, local police and fire officials, and community Civil Defense and Emergency Management personnel.

SET is an opportunity to build upon the message handling and communications skills developed through participation in the NTS and ARES nets. A key feature of SET is a disaster scenario which encompasses a wide geographic area (state or ARRL section) and thus, stresses interoperability between many different communications groups, served agencies and jurisdictions.

Swift and efficient implementation of an emergency response plan, and adherence to proper message handling and net procedures have been, and continue to be objectives of the SET.

However, the prime objective of SET '95 will be to man all customer locations possible in each jurisdiction including local served agency offices and headquarters, state wide agency headquarters, and headquarters commands out of section. In

addition to the served agencies already mentioned, this will also include a number of hospitals, airports/CAP, military armories, MARS, NDMS, NWS, FEMA/NCS, and national headquarters of some of the above agencies.

This is a prime time for Emergency Coordinators to introduce or build on a relationship with community agencies. We understand our communications capabilities, but we need to ensure our served agencies know them too. A wide scale disaster involving so many different agencies can produce conflicting demands on a limited pool of Amateur Radio resources. It is the job of the Section Emergency Coordinator and his local Emergency Coordinators to prioritize those demands and allocate resources accordingly. There can never be too many volunteers.

Each drill, SET or actual emergency contains unique demands. However, certain aspects lend themselves to standardization. Net discipline and message handling procedures rank high on the list. If a hurricane hit Maryland, the eastern most counties would likely be most affected and the amateurs within them would have safety of self and loved ones uppermost in their minds - not volunteering to man the local shelter.

Amateurs from outside the affected area would be called upon to assist, and standardization of procedures would allow them to step in and render immediate assistance. You should read the Oklahoma City bombing recap in Sept '95 QST, and similar articles, paying particular attention to lessons learned. Our served agencies place an awesome trust in our capabilities and we owe them the best possible service.

Participation in the Simulated Emergency Test, the NTS, and involvement in ARES will help ensure we can respond when called upon. SET '95 will occur on October 21st between the hours of 1000 to 1600 local time. To get involved, contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator, Net Manager, or your Section Manager. Ready - SET - go!





# 1995-1996 ARES CALENDAR



## August 1995

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

## September 1995

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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## October 1995

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## November 1995

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## December 1995

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## January 1996

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## September

4 Labor Day  
17 M.S. Society Half Marathon  
23 Autumn begins

## October

9 Columbus Day (Observed)  
14 B.S.A. Fall Camporee  
21 Simulated Emergency Test  
22 Marine Corps Marathon  
29 Daylight Savings  
31 Halloween

## November

11 Veterans Day  
23 Thanksgiving

## December

22 Winter begins  
24 Santa Net at Hospitals  
25 Christmas  
31 New Year's Eve

## January

1 New Year's Day  
15 Martin Luther King, Jr.

## February

12 Lincoln's Birthday  
14 Valentine's Day  
19 President's Day  
21 Ash Wednesday  
22 Washington's Birthday

## March

17 St. Patrick's  
20 Spring begins  
31 Palm Sunday

## April

1 April Fools Day  
5 Good Friday  
7 Daylight Savings  
Easter

## May

12 Mother's Day  
18 Armed Forces Day  
27 Memorial Day (Observed)

## June

14 Flag Day  
16 Father's Day  
20 Summer begins

## July

1 Dominion Day (Canada)  
4 Independence Day

## February 1996

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## March 1996

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## April 1996

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## May 1996

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## June 1996

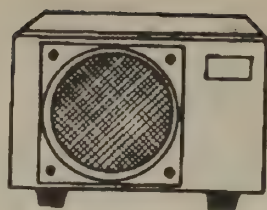
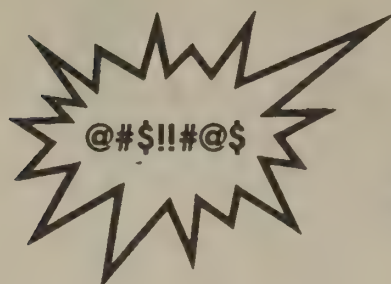
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## July 1996

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



# Rotten QRM



By Bill Howard  
WB3V

For the most part amateur radio is an agreeable way to enjoy your free moments. At times, however, malicious interference, vulgar language and generally disagreeable behavior can make the experience trying. Also, if I may generalize for a bit, the disagreeable behavior is displayed by a very vocal but small minority of our fellow amateur radio operators.

From HF through UHF, on voice and digital modes, there are a few who seem to delight in provoking strong reactions from others. When amateur radio provides the "soap box" for the poorly behaved, many of us can be exposed.

Wide exposure, via HF or a local repeater can feed the offenders need for an audience. If they can cajole or threaten or berate you over the air, and you are foolish enough to respond, then you have just made their day! Some offenders are very skilled manipulators who have developed a long list of "hot buttons" to enrage and then engage their next victim. Some culprits even have a skill, another cooperating operator, to maintain their "QSO" during the search for new victims.

There are catcalls, unidentified transmissions, vulgar exchanges, and other foolish behavior — all of which continues to feed the person who started it all. The audience then become offenders themselves!

Rule #1 — do not transmit! If you must listen to the amateur shock jocks, then listen on a scanner so you won't be tempted to transmit. Nothing you say on-the-air will make the situation better, nothing! If you transmit during one of these

outbursts, you run the risk of becoming an offender yourself — do not transmit. The offender may try to pry you out of the wood-work by many ploys. He or she may make repeated calls for a "control operator" on a repeater.

The control operators are usually knowledgeable enough not to respond. They realize that the repeater is not the offender, and that's something we all should keep in mind. Turning off the repeater may not be a good option, since it proves to the offender that he or she is having an effect. Some offenders even have high-power stations to camp on the repeater output frequency and continue their malicious efforts. Without an audience, the offender will usually go elsewhere. Unfortunately, the multitude of repeaters provides a variety of targets. Oh, and by the way don't transmit to tell others not to transmit; do not transmit.

Rule #2 — a call to the FCC will be fruitless, see Rule #1. So then what can we do?

Here is some background information. The Amateur Auxiliary resulted from an agreement between the FCC's Field Operations Bureau and the ARRL. Maintenance monitoring is conducted through an Official Observer (OO) program, while amateur interference at VHF is handled by Local Interference Committees (LIC). Both OOs and LICs are administered by the ARRL Section Managers.

The OOs avoid creating the perception that the program will cure all the ills that abound on the air. The general amateur public must not think volunteer monitoring will solve all these on-the-air problems. For example, certain cases of malicious interference are prevalent on repeaters. These evils are not cured swiftly. Much evidence gathering is involved. This can be a time-consuming process. Due process of law must be followed, and lengthy delays should be expected. These are excerpts from the OO training guide and

*Continued next page*





# Amateur Radio Newsline

Compiled by  
John Queen  
KAØSEY

## ARRL SUPPORTS CHANGE

The ARRL says that it supports several proposed regulatory changes. It has filed comments on FCC WT Docket 95-57, a notice of proposed rule making on five items of importance to amateurs. These items are as follows:

First is a lifetime amateur operator license, originally proposed by the League in a petition filed January 6, 1994. The ARRL said in its comments that it believes a relatively substantial number of amateurs would benefit from such a lifetime license.

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### *Rotten QRM, from page 18*

I thought it would be appropriate to mention the program here.

Hardly a week goes by that I am not confronted by someone saying the OO program, the ARRL, and the FCC and have all failed, because someone acted inappropriately on a repeater, and nothing was done about it immediately.

My response is to invite the person to join the ARRL OO program and to form an LIC. There is only one, newly formed, LIC in the MDC Section. Until now, NO evidence has been submitted to me that I could in turn pass to ARRL HQ.

OOs and LICs are not authorized to contact the FCC directly. They are encouraged to remain

The League says that the current Commission's proposal is not quite what the 1994 petition requested. Rather, that former licensees be given credit for examinations passed in the past. This says ARRL would create an unnecessary burden for volunteer examiners and would assign to them a function contrary to the Communications Act.

Next, back on April 4, 1994, the League petitioned the FCC to change the number of bona fide members necessary to constitute an Amateur Radio club from two to four. This, for the purpose of applying for a club station license. The FCC has recently resumed issuing of club station licenses after a 15 year hiatus, and the League says that since the FCC no longer requires the filing of organizational documents from clubs, that increasing the required number of members to four as the FCC has proposed in WT 95-57 is more important than ever.

Third, the League strongly opposed the creation of a session manager for volunteer examiner test sessions, as proposed by the FCC based on a petition by the Rules Committee of the National

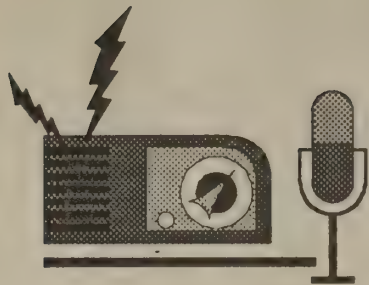
*Continued on page 44*

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anonymous (not broadcast the fact they are an OO or part of an LIC), and quietly gather evidence, which is then sent to the Section Manager. Judging from the response so far, I would have to say there are no problems, except I know, and you know — that is not the case. Please contact me, if you have strong feelings about repeater abuse and you are willing to do something about it. If you are outside the Maryland/DC Section, look on page 8 of QST for the address of your Section Manager.

A more immediate solution might be direct civil action. If your repeater group, or group of clubs feels that legitimate users are being deprived of their privilege to use the repeater, or if they feel that an identified offender is not a legitimate user, then perhaps they might be interested in direct civil action. If that is the case, perhaps they should contact a lawyer. This approach will cost money.





## **DX DX DX**

By John Kanode,  
N4MM

### **PRATAS ISLAND AND SCARBOROUGH REEF, THE SAGA CONTINUES**

The DXAC plans to do a remote on Pratas Island in October. The Awards Committee and the DXAC could NOT agree on the Scarborough issue, so it will be submitted to the MSC for recommendation to the full ARRL Board. The Awards Committee has prepared and submitted a report to the MSC.

The DXAC is still in the process of creating a report for the MSC and when this is done, the MSC will make a recommendation. The MSC did have a meeting on August 19, but no action was taken due to the fact that the DXAC did not have a report ready. More on these issues as they develop.

ARRL President, Rod Stafford, KB6ZV, has appointed the members to an Ad Hoc Committee on revising the documents relating to operations of ARRL Advisory Committees. ARRL board Minute 85 directed the ARRL President to create

Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF, Chairman

ARRL Director

Tom Frenaye, K1KI

ARRL Vice President

Tod Olson, KØTO

ARRL Director

John Kanode, N4MM

ARRL Director

Jim Maxwell, W6CF

ARRL Vice Director

Warren Rothberg, WB1HBB

ARRL Vice Director

Garth Hamilton, VE3HO

Chairman, DXAC

Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH

ARRL HQ Staff

This committee will review all the appropriate operating documents and will make recommendations for changes.

It was absolutely amazing to read the wild, incorrect DXCC rumors that were going around through the packet network, the Internet DX Reflector and elsewhere.

Some people will believe almost anything and have no concern about spreading false and incomplete information. These people do a great disservice to Amateur Radio and make themselves look like fools by doing so. If you have this urge to spread the news to the world, make sure you get the complete and correct facts before doing so. The sad part is that people believe these merchants of disinformation and pass it on.

ARRL President, Rod Stafford, KB6ZV issued a letter to all DXCC participants that went into great detail as to what took place at the ARRL meetings in Connecticut. The letter is much too long to reprint here. It was sent to all the DX newsletters and posted on the DX Reflector of the Internet. If anyone has not seen the letter and would like a copy, Please send me a SASE and I will send you a copy of the

### **UPCOMING DX CONTESTS**

ARRL International EME Competition

October 7-8

Ibero-Americano Contest

October 14-15

RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest

October 21-22

Worked All Germany Contest

October 21-22

CQ WW DX Contest, Phone

October 28-29

*Continued on page 52*





# Amateur Radio Training Classes

John Forrest WZ4A  
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310  
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 October for the December issue).

## Class Announcements

**NO-CODE TECHNICIAN/NOVICE CLASS:** The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club and the First Christian Church (Alexandria) Boy Scout Explorer Post will present an entry-level amateur radio training course leading to an FCC Novice and/or Technician license. Morse code instruction will be available. The class will be held in the City of Alexandria on Wednesday evenings beginning in September. There is no charge for the class; however, students will be required to provide their own study materials at a cost of approximately \$25. For information, contact John Forrest, WZ4A at (703)971-3905 or Bill Schmitt, KD4CNS at (703)768-5709.

**NO-CODE TECHNICIAN/NOVICE CLASS:** The Central Maryland ARC will conduct an entry-level amateur radio training class leading to an FCC Novice and/or Technician license. Morse code instruction will be available if interest warrants. The class will be held at the Greenbelt City Police Station at 550 Crescent Road starting September 8th. There is no charge for the class. However, students will be required to provide their own study materials at a cost of approximately \$25. For more information contact Randy Crenwelge, WB5LPN, at (301) 474-2387.

**NOVICE/TECHNICIAN TRAINING CLASS:** The Vienna Wireless Society will present a Novice/Technician license training class beginning on Saturday September 30, 1996 at the Electronic Equipment Bank (EEB) on Mill Street in Vienna, VA. The class will run from 10am to 12 noon on 10 Saturdays. For information, contact Paul Wilkins, AB4CY at (703)560-2779.

**NOVICE/TECHNICIAN TRAINING CLASS:** The Montgomery Amateur Radio Club is offering a fall training class for Novice and Technician licenses beginning October 10, 1995. The classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Gaithersburg High School in Gaithersburg, MD. The class will run through November 16, 1995. For information call Rocky Jones - KC4UXO at (301) 216-5210 or Peggy Kelly - N3PPG at (301) 330-0027.

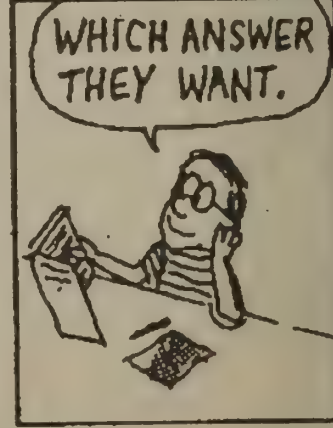
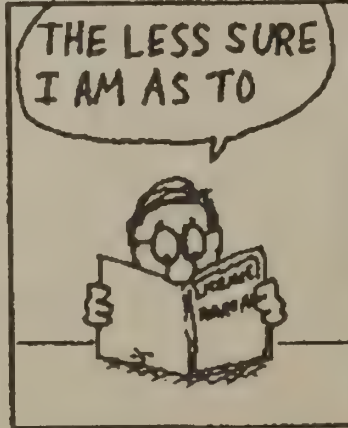
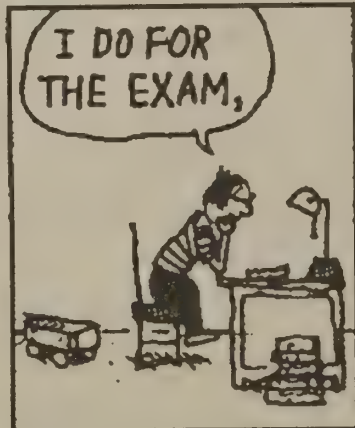
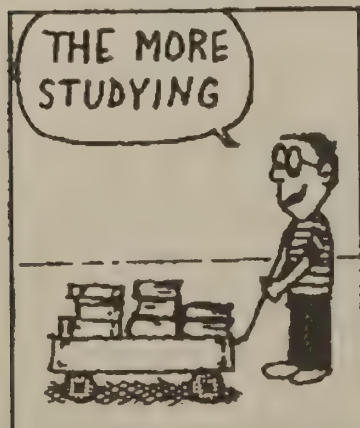


## Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Fred Bardsley WD4DHW	(703) 533-0372
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
Baltimore RATS	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	Essex Community College	(410) 780-6854
Fauquier ARC	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(703) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Herndon Rep't Gp	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3DQI	(301) 498-6293
MADRAS	Larry Ziecheck N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	John Baugus N3JME	(301) 551-3161
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(703) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Guy Black W4PSJ	(703) 722-4952
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(703) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(703) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Paul Wilkins AB4CY	(703) 560-2779
Woodbridge Wireless	Cliff Deel KO4FM	(703) 491-0841

## ELMER

By Rich Regent, K9GDF







## Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A  
6111 Burnett St.  
Alexandria, VA, 22310  
(703) 971-3905

\* Effective July 1, 1995, the Advanced Class written exam question pool (Element 4A) changed. Since the question pool has not been changed for many years, significant changes are anticipated. Be sure to use study materials appropriate for the current question pool.

\* ATTENTION VE's: It's time to plan your 1996 test dates. 1996 dates will appear in *AutoCall* soon. Also, copies of the 1996 *AutoCall* exam schedule will be distributed to local ham radio stores around the middle of December. Please send your information to WZ4A as soon as possible."

## 1995 Schedule of Examinations

October 1 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day) (301)773-2898 (Evening)
October 14 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510
	Cumberland, MD - Mountain ARC (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576 Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk in - Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
October 19 (Thursday)	Towson, MD - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Kennick WB3HNV (410)426-8255 Mailbox #3468



<b>October 21 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	<b>Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX &amp; Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Requested Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110
<b>October 24 (Tuesday)</b>	<b>Annapolis, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited Contact: Lois Turner KA3VVQ (410)647-4178
<b>October 28 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Winchester, VA - Shenandoah Valley ARC (Mount. ARC VEC)</b> Walk-In Contact: Guy Black W4PSJ (540)722-4952
	<b>Spotsylvania, VA - Fredericksburg VA VE Team (ARRL VEC)</b> Walk-In. Contact: Kelly Shaw AC4MB (703)891-5581 Carolyn Cavanagh AC4SK (703)373-7076
<b>November 4 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Sterling, VA - Herndon Repeater Group (ARRL VEC) Walk-in</b> Contact: Mike Weber WB8RDN (703) 450-2304
<b>November 5 (Sunday)</b>	<b>Elkins, WV (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Walter Corley KF8SX (304)637-0506
	<b>Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day) (301)773-2898 (Evening)
<b>November 11 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510
	<b>Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083



<b>November 11 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Baltimore, MD - Moose Amateur Radio Club (ARRL VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Amateur Radio Center (410) 889-5214
<b>November 17 (Friday)</b>	<b>Arlington, VA - The Pentagon, Pentagon ARC (ARRL VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Encouraged Contact: Jim Fox KE4EID (703)756-8994 (Work) (703)931-6523 (Evening)
<b>November 18 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	<b>Smithsburg, MD - Mid-Atlantic DX &amp; Rptr Assn. (ARRL VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Requested Contact: J.M. Vaia WB8VBW (301)416-8447 Box 110
<b>November 26 (Sunday)</b>	<b>Hagerstown, MD - Antietam Radio Assn. (ARRL VEC)</b> Pre-registration Strongly Recommended - Limited Walk-In Contact: Page Pyne WA3EOP (301)714-0688 (Day) Bob Long KD3JK (201)824-5132 (Evening)
<b>November 28 (Tuesday)</b>	<b>Glen Burnie, MD - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC)</b> Pre-Registration Requested, Walk-In limited Contact: Jerry Gavin NU3D (410)761-1423
<b>December 3 (Sunday)</b>	<b>Landover, MD - D.C.M. ARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 (Day) (301)773-2898 (Evening)
<b>December 9 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Frank Mackey N4GUS (703)455-1510
	<b>Cumberland, MD - Mountain ARC (Mount. ARC VEC) Walk-In</b> Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576 Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674





# Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

## EXAM FEES:

- \* Check for appropriate exam fee. Fees and modes of payment for individual VECs and exam teams may vary.
- \* ARRL VEC exams cost \$5.90
- \* Laurel VEC exams are free
- \* Mountain VEC exams are free
- \* W5YI VEC exams cost \$5.90

## BRING TO EXAM:

- \* Picture identification
- \* Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
- \* Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
- \* Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
- \* Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

## "GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

- \* If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your original license!

## RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., Sept. 25 for November issue)





**ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT BANK**  
323 MILL STREET, N.E.  
VIENNA, VA 22180  
703 • 938 • 3350



**Maryland-DC Virginia's Leading Radio Center:**  
**Amateur, Shortwave and Commercial 2-way**  
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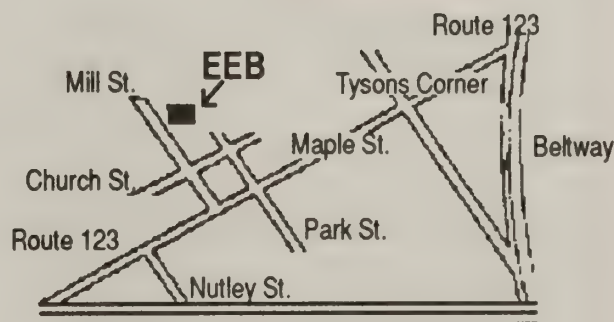
- Complete "Factory Authorized" service center
- Consignment Equipment Corner for your unwanted radios
- Live equipment demos let you kick the tires before you buy
- Come by and see the latest equipment and demos
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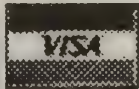


**STORE HOURS:**

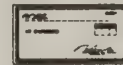
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(Open 9am-9pm Thursday)  
10am-4pm Saturday



We Accept:



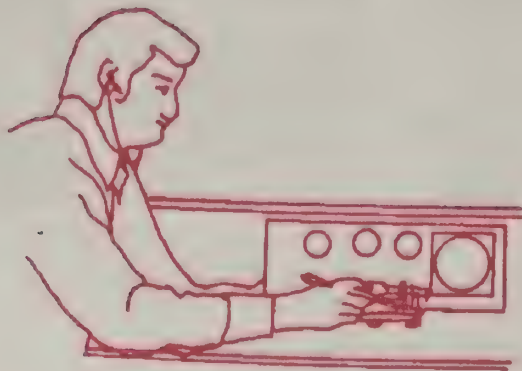
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We Ship: Federal Express - UPS - U.S. Mail





# Local Area Net Schedules

Compiled by  
Chuck Sommer, N4OSD,  
Al Brown, WA3FYZ, and  
John Queen KAØSEY

## Sunday

1500 UTC	14.316	State Dept Foreign Service Net
1530 UTC	21.416	State Dept Foreign Service Net
1600 UTC	28.416	State Dept Foreign Service Net
9:00 A.M.	50.400	Metropolitan Communications Network
7:30 P.M.	147.060	Frederick Co ARES
8:00 P.M.	145.210	DC Amateur Radio Emergency Services
	146.805	AA Co ARES
	144.970	Metrovision Amateur TV Club (ATV net)
	147.360	Metro Comm net
	147.030	Listening Post (BRATS)
8:30 P.M.	147.000	Nat'l Capitol DX Association
9:00 P.M.	146.835	AMSAT
	146.910	Nat'l Capitol ARES

## Monday

7:30 P.M.	146.640	St. Mary's ARES
	147.030	The Horsetradeers (BRATS)
8:00 P.M.	147.240	Woodbridge Wireless
9:00 P.M.	147.030	Traffic and Info (BRATS)
	145.310	Herndon ARC

## Tuesday

7:00 P.M.	146.940	Antietam Radio Association
7:30 P.M.	147.135	Youth Net
	147.120	Culpepper ARA
	147.060	Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Assc.
	146.640	St. Mary's Bottom County net
	145.470	Arlington ARC (except meeting nights)
8:00 P.M.	147.150	Southern Maryland ARC
8:30 P.M.	28.410	Anne Arundel Radio Club
	146.670	Baltimore ARC
	147.135	Columbia ARA
9:00 P.M.	146.655	Mt. Vernon ARC (moves to 28.408 MHz)
9:30 P.M.	145.230	Central Maryland ARC



## Wednesday

7:00 P.M.	447.975	Antietam Radio Association
8:00 P.M.	1.865	Southern Maryland ARC
	146.790	Northern VA FM Association
	144.970	Metrovision Amateur TV Club
	444.400	Anne Arundel Radio Club
8:30 P.M.	147.225	Laurel ARC (1st,3rd & 5th)
9:00 P.M.	147.165	Fauquier Amateur Radio Association

## Thursday

7:00 P.M.	147.090	Antietam Radio Association
8:00 P.M.	146.970	Ole Va Hams
	28.447	Southern Maryland ARC
8:30 P.M.	145.450	Maryland Apple Dumpling RAS (1st, 3rd)
	28.340	GARC
	147.105	Anne Arundel Radio Club (2nd,4th & 5th)
	145.190	Dept. of State/Voice of America
9:00 P.M.	146.835	Goddard ARC
	147.030	ATV Net (BRATS)

## Friday

none

## Saturday

1:00 P.M.	147.030	News Bulletin (BRATS)
1:20 P.M.	147.030	The Answer Men (BRATS)
8:00 P.M.	52.250	Metro Communications Network

## Daily

6:00 P.M.	3.920	MEPN
6:30 P.M.	146.670	Baltimore Traffic Net
7:00 P.M.	3.643	MDD
7:15 P.M.	146.820	Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net
7:30 P.M.	147.300	Northern Virginia Traffic Net
7:30 P.M.	3.717	Maryland Slow Net
10:00 P.M.	3.643	MDD

## Special

Skywarn	147.030	Skywarn
	145.350	MD Skywarn
	147.300	Northern Virginia Traffic Net
Bay Wx Net	147.105	AARC (Sat,Sun 11am/3pm from Apr 1-Nov15)
7:30 P.M.	146.790	No. VA FM Assc. (equip clinic-1st Wed)



6th Annual

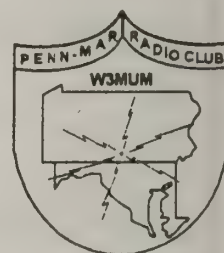
# Mason-Dixon

## Computer & Hamfest

Sunday - October 29, 1995



Carroll County Ag Center  
Westminister, MD



### Admission

- General - \$5.00 (children under 12 free)
- Tailgating - \$5 per 12' space
- 6:00 AM Vendor and tailgating setup
- 8:00 AM General Admission

### Inside Tables

- \$20 per 8' table
- \$15 if *prepaid* by 10/7/95
- MD State law requires Vendors to collect Sales Tax

### Advanced Table Registration

(Reserved Tables MUST be PREPAID)

- Mail to:  
Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest  
P.O. Box 763  
Hanover, PA 17331
- Or call:  
Larry Martin, N3DGK  
(410) 374-4544

*Rain or  
Shine!*

*Hundreds  
of  
Tailgating  
spaces  
Available!*

### VE Exams - Preregistration Requested

Mail to:

Bill Wolfgang, NZ3J  
9 Kensington Drive  
Littlestown, PA 17340

or call:

Bill Wolfgang, NZ3J - (717) 359-7095  
Pat Stump, WW3U - (717) 632-4237

### On-Site Registration

- At the Carroll County EOC  
(across from Kate Wagner Road)
- Begins promptly at 8:00 AM
- No admittance after 9:00 AM

### Required for VE Exam

- Original FCC license plus one copy
- Two forms of ID (one w/ photo)
- Any CSCE's
- Exam fee, \$5.90 cash only

*Talk-in: CCARC Repeater 145.410 MHz.*

Seminars - ARRL Forum; AMSAT

**FREE** Radio Checks by Motorola Rep's



Come Hungry - We have Great Food, prepared once again by the MIDWAY FIRE COMPANY

*Sponsored by The Carroll County and Penn-Mar Amateur Radio Clubs*







## **AMSAT The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation**

**Local Meetings:** Semiannual in March and September.

**VHF FM Net:** Sunday at 9 p.m. on 146.835 MHz FM, WA3NAN/R, Greenbelt, MD except on government holiday weekends.

**Information:** NCS Pat Kilroy, WD8LAQ, **Contact by Internet:** wd8laq@amsat.org or during weekly net. Looking for new home PBBS and packet list server BBS for local AMSAT individuals.

*AMSAT is a non-profit, scientific and educational organization incorporated in Washington, D.C. with headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Everyone is welcome to join AMSAT and to become actively involved in the support and operation of the amateur space program. If you would like additional information then please check in to our local net. You may also write to AMSAT-NA at: AMSAT Headquarters, P.O. Box 27, Washington, D.C. 20044. Or you may telephone headquarters at 301-589-6062.*

### **LOCAL AMSAT PROJECTS**

We are about to "launch" some local projects. A number of exciting potential projects were brainstormed at our recent semiannual meeting. Would you like to be a part of a small group to learn first hand about designing, building and flying a balloon experiment, for example? Let's try it! We will hold a splinter meeting soon to place our ideas in motion. Check in to our weekly VHF FM net to be counted!

### **MIR STATION UPGRADE PLANNED**

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 238.01  
FROM AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD  
AUGUST 26, 1995

German Cosmonaut QRV Aboard MIR  
German Cosmonaut Thomas Reiter, DF4TR, will be QRV aboard the space station MIR signing DP0MIR during the ESA EUROMIR 95 mission starting 02-SEPT-95.

He will use the 2M ham radio rig aboard MIR during the 135 days of his flight. The primary frequencies to be used (preferably in SPLIT mode operation) are 145.800 MHz, 145.550 MHz, and maybe 145.200 MHz (as adopted for MIR and SHUTTLE activities at the IARU session of this year's AMSAT-UK Colloquium).

The QSL information is DP0MIR, and QSLs will be handled via the usual German DARC QSL bureau.

A new piece of 70 CM equipment, called SAFEX II and built by Thomas Kieselbach, DL2MDE, (who also arranged DF4TR's activity together with Sergej Samburov, RV3DR), will be installed at the MIR spacecraft permanently in the course of future missions later.

This will be primarily an FM repeater with a downlink at 437.925 MHz, 437.950 MHz, and 437.975 MHz, and an uplink in the lower part of the 435 MHz space segment.

SAFEX II will later be improved by adding a 23CM to 13CM transponder, capable of broadbandwidth modes (e.g., ATV).

Stay tuned to the AMSAT News Service (ANS) bulletins for further information concerning DF4TR's status and this MIR space station upgrade.

[The AMSAT News Service (ANS) would like to thank Norbert Notthoff (DF5DP) for providing this bulletin item. Norbert can be reached at his INTERNET address of DF5DP@amsat.org or at his CompuServe address of 100114.1050]

73, Pat WD8LAQ AMSAT Area Coordinator





## Anne Arundel Radio Club

**Meetings:** First and Third Thursday of the month at 8 p.m. at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge and Wayson Roads off Maryland Route 214 near Annapolis.

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035

**On The Air:** 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 Mhz.

**Information:** Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229.

At the August 17th program meeting, Club Members Bob Baltz/N3MNT and Bob Israel/WC3I entertained attendees. MNT Bob demonstrated "Digital Signal Processing in Amateur Radio". WC3I Bob displayed variations of J-Pole antennas.

Twenty-four AARC members turned out bright and early on Sunday morning August 27th to furnish communications for the 20th annual Annapolis 10-mile Run. The 4,000 runners were from 24 states, including 12-year-old Jermaine Wilson of Aberdeen who finished 295th overall. Coordinator Dave Evartt/N6TAU expressed thanks for those who came out and did an excellent and professional job. Race officials were most appreciative.

At the Clubhouse on August 12th, Robert Israel/WC3I, Charlie Tiemeyer/W3RMD and Oscar Ramsey/NV3G gave 4 tests to 3 persons. Four tests were passed with 2 upgrades. Other members of the team were: Herb Elkin/KA3FDO, Harlan Ray

III/AA3FE, Robert Kammer/N3POX, Bettye Tiemeyer/K3VRZ and Holly Bevan/N3BMB. The next testing session at the clubhouse will be on October 14th.

73, Holly/N3BMB



## Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

**Meetings:** Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at Towson Presbyterian Church, Chesapeake and Highland Aves. in Towson, Md. -First Wednesday of the month -business meeting, Third Wednesday of the month - program.

**Repeaters:** W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-), 224.24 (-) (no PL) and 449.625(-)(PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz. repeaters are linked.

**Club Net:** Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm on 146.67/224.24.

**Club BBS:** (410) 665-7646 (min. 2400 baud)

**Club Voice Mail/Info:** (410) HAMTALK

**Hamfests:** Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST.

**Mailing:** BARC, Inc., P.O. BOX 120, Reisterstown MD 21136

Now that school has started, BARC will be holding its meetings at Dulaney High School on Padonia Road in Timonium, Md. The high school is easy to find. Just follow Padonia Road east from the interchange with I-83 for about two miles or so. It will appear on your right just when you think it couldn't possibly be as far outside town as it is.

As of the time this article is written (August), it has been a quiet month, but the fall promises to be busy, with repairs to the club's repeater system, routine administrative things such as the club budget, and preparations for next year's Hamboree.

Chuck, K3FT, has been organizing transmitter hunts on a monthly basis. The latest one was a hunt



on 20 August, run by Paul, N3MOG, and his son Nick, KE3HV. Paul and Nick set up their transmitter in a park in Baltimore, and the first hunter to find them was Kevin, N6QAB, who is an avid foxhunter.

Thanks go to Paul and Nick for running the hunt and to all who participated, and congratulations to Kevin for finding the fax first and winning the chance to run the next hunt.

The program at August's second meeting of BARC was on VHF/UHF contesting, given by Maurice, KA3EJJ. For the last couple of years, Maurice and several friends have been running a multi-radio, multi-operator station in Delaware during VHF/UHF contest weekends.

Maurice's station was quite elaborate—his slides of his contest station showed three military-surplus crank-up towers about 40 feet tall, with each tower carrying three VHF or UHF antennas of one kind or another. Maurice reported that it did get boring when band conditions were poor, but when the bands opened up he and his crew had fun making contacts with stations looking for unusual grid squares, as Delaware is off the beaten path for most East Coast VHF/UHF propagation.

Maurice also emphasized the fact that a fancy station such as his, with many radios covering all modes, is not necessary to enjoy VHF/UHF contesting. He pointed out that FM is a popular mode, especially on 2 meters, and even a handheld rig, if coupled to a 12-volt supply and a beam antenna, can provide hours of fun.

People might scoff at the idea of using an H-T for the purpose, but I have operated one from a high spot north of Lancaster, Pa., in such contests, and received S9 signal reports from points as far away as Breezewood, Pa., 90 miles to the west. And that on just 5 watts into a home-brew quarter-wave ground-plane antenna. Try it, it's fun!

... 73 de N3NYC/Hale



## Capital City Amateur Radio Society

**Meetings:** 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.

**Repeater:** W3EIL 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.

**Nets:** Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs, RTTY net Thursdays 2100 hrs, voice portion 2145 hrs, ARES net Sundays 2000 hrs, all on 145.110.

**Mailing Address:** CCARS, 1719 Franklin St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20018.

**Information:** Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Chester, W3EIL (202) 529-9598.

The "Dog Days" of summer have passed and here we are - winding down from a whirlwind of vacation activities. The youngsters are back in school/college, leaving us a little more time for ham related projects. Perhaps, we might be more visible when the autumn leaves have fallen. A good time to check the tower and those guy wires. Don't forget to cut back tree limbs and branches that may cause problems next spring. Let's be extremely cautious while working anywhere near electric power or telephone lines. Finally, be very sure that all ground connections are secure.

Congratulations to those who recently upgraded. Ron, KA3VIM to N3VPU, Willie, N3PYO to KE3SA, Reggie, N3PTY to AA3LR, Roy, N3PXC to AA3MA and Cliffe, KA3AUK to N3VXX. Enjoy the activities on HF. Our best wishes to John, N3TCD on the acquisition of a new 2 meter rig.

Since 1986, CCARS has provided communications, electric generators and PA systems for the annual "Prayers For Peace" at the base of the Washington Monument and Sylvan theater. The event is held each year on Columbus

*Continued next page*



Day and attracts local and out of town participants. CCARS will be there again Monday, October 9, 1995 at 7:00 PM.

Plans are underway for a "packet radio" demonstration at our regular meeting - Saturday October 21, 1995.



### **Fauquier Amateur Radio Association**

**Meeting:** 7:30 p.m., Second Tuesday of the month except July, August and December. Shadow Lawn Recreation Center, Warrenton VA. Next meeting, September 12, 1995.

**Breakfast:** Last Saturday of the month at Western Sizzlin Warrenton VA 7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**Net:** Every Wednesday, 9:00 p.m., 147.165 Mhz NZ4N Repeater.

**Packet:** KE4YVU FARA7 node 145.070 Mhz with direct connect to FBBS9

FBBS9 Bulletin Board 145.090 Mhz,  
FARA9 node 145.090 Mhz.

**Repeater:** NZ4N/R 147.165 Mhz (+0.600 Mhz)

**Newsletter:** TOROID, Monthly.

**Information:** Don, WY2V, (703)347-5745.

**Next meeting:** October 10, 1995.

The September FARA meeting featured a talk on AMSAT and the various OSCAR satellites given by Mark, KD6AKC. He covered the variety of hamsats available, the rudiments of how to use them, and some background on AMSAT and the Phase 3D satellite now under construction.

Since the September meeting is the first since June (and Field Day) we had plenty of catching up to do, stories to share, and new hardware to talk about.

Don started the search for club officers for the coming year. Several spots are open and he's eagerly looking for members wanting to be more active in the functioning of the club.

Late in August, the club supported the ride-a-thon for the Therapeutic Riding Center. The center benefits children and adults with disabilities and special needs throughout the region by providing them opportunities to ride and work with horses. The ride-a-thon was on horseback of course and the barbecue and auction afterward capped the event off nicely. FARA provided communications for the checkpoints and the rover cart. Thanks to all those who helped: Don WY2V, Dave KD4SV, Woody KC6NOT, Mike N3TGN, Jim KC4UOL, and Mark KD6AKC.

73, Mark, KD6AKC



### **Goddard Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

**Meeting:** Third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Goddard Amateur Radio Club station, Soil Conservation Road, Greenbelt, MD, across from the Soil Conservation Road gate of the Goddard Space Flight Center. This road may be accessed from either Route 193, Greenbelt Road, or Powder Mill Road.

**Net:** Information net is held every Thursday evening at 9:00 p.m. local time. All amateur radio operators are welcomed. Net Control is Don Bennett, W3MIK

**Repeater:** 146.835 Mhz.

**Information:** Jim Blackwell, N3KWU, (301) 286-4534; Vikki Gigante-Hueber, KA3PVS, (301) 249-2609.

It has been a quiet time for GARC with the shuttle grounded.

We will be up again on September 26 for yet another mission. This is the current scuttlebutt from NASA, but we will keep you posted.

A shuttle retransmission workshop will be held on Saturday, September 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the new trailer. Bill Graettinger will go over how to use the new equipment and Vikki Gigante



will give an overview of the shuttle retransmission program and how shuttle retransmission is done.

If anyone is interested, please contact Vikki at 301-249-2609. If you cannot make it on that date, don't worry, call me and we will schedule another training!

We will be at the Virginia Beach hamfest on September 23 & 24 to answer questions and say hello!

GARC has recently participated in the MD-DC QSO party and we are anxiously awaiting the results of our participation in that contest.

Our annual open house is the third Wednesday in September from 5-9 p.m. at the club station on Soil Conservation Service Road. All are welcome. Come and see our new trailer!

Keep tuned for next month's report on Shuttle Retransmission, we'll provide the facts and times for the rest of the year on the missions as soon as we know them!

Thanks for your support!

73s, Vikki, KA3PVS



## Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

**Meetings:** Third Wednesday of each month, 5:30 PM, In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).

**Net:** Monday 8:00 PM, 146.67(-)/224.24(-) MHz (courtesy of BARC).

**Information:** Ernie Farkas K3CBW - (410) 747-1377.

**Mail:** P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21090.

**Street address:** 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090

The Historic Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club was honored by the presence of two of the top ARRL Maryland/DC leaders at the August 16, 1995 meeting. Section Manager Bill Howard, WB3V accompanied Affiliated Club Coordinator Tony Young, WA3YLO who presented HEMARC the ARRL Charter of Affiliation. Following the business meeting the ARRL representatives socialized with the club members and then toured the Museum.

In his remarks at the presentation Tony noted the excellence of the HEMARC library of commercial and amateur radio publications and video tapes. Tony also remarked favorably on the club's participation in FAR and encouraged HEMARC to send representation to as many meetings as possible.

Rol Anders K3RA, discussed the forthcoming Novice/Technician training class and requested that anyone interested please contact either him (Evenings and Weekends- 410-796- 4792) or Ernie Farkas K3CBW (Working hours 410-747-

*Continued next page*

Reminder - all submissions for



**AUTO CALL**

are due no later than the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication!!



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1377.) The course will begin at 7:30 PM Tuesday September 19, 1995 and will be held every Tuesday for 8-10 weeks depending on the progress of the group.

Each class will be from 1 1/2 to 2 hours in length. The ARRL textbook will be used. The main emphasis will be technical and regulatory. The classes will be held at the Museum. The only cost to participants will be the text. Non-members are cordially invited.

The TBL-13 WWII Navy Transmitter in the HEMARC W3GR station has been improved by additional stabilization of the oscillator power supply. This has improved somewhat the "Character" of the CW signal.

It is easy to forget how free of even the faintest of chirp the modern ham transmitters have become. Many hams remember how common it was to recognize frequently heard stations on CW by their signal "signature."

An original suppression grid modulator for the TBL-13 has now been located and placed on order. Before the end of the year WWII style voice should be available from W3GR.

A discussion was held on how to train more members to operate the TBL-13 for special events such as Navy Day and other appropriate ham happenings.

A video tape on antenna fundamentals from the ARRL was presented. This tape was made from a presentation by Frank Rutter, K3AW (Now a silent key, Frank was a member of the Friendship Amateur Radio Club and friend of many HEMARC members.) The first half of the tape, on basic antennas, was covered. The remaining section, on more complex antennas, will be shown at a future meeting.

This tape or the actual presentation has enlivened many area ham club meetings and anyone who has not seen it is encouraged to seek

it out. Even members who has seen the live presentation several times found another look at this unusual approach both interesting and informative.

Congratulations to Gary Ryan, W3GMY for 40 plus years of continuous ARRL membership. Also thanks to Gary for handling the meeting night goodies.

Many thanks also to John Fitzhugh, N3BZB for handling the Monday night traffic net controller task during the first months of operation. HEMARC invites all interested hams to join the net after traffic call.

It is worthy of note that Dick Zucker KB3YM, (A former FARC member) was a 21 year old radio operator at Pearl Harbor on VJ Day a half century ago. Dick passed the message from Washington to General McArthur that the war was over.

HEMARC invites all persons interested in the history of electronics to join them and to enjoy the Museum. Special tours can be arranged for groups. The meeting room will hold 35-40 people comfortably.

FAR clubs that would like to hold a meeting at the Museum should call 410-765-2345 and ask for Jeff Bucheit or Betsy Hall. A HEMARC ham will be assigned to work the club.

73's de Chip W4PBG

**Mid-Atlantic Radio Club.** Become a part of one of the country's fastest growing vintage radio clubs. The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club is an active group of radio collectors, restorers and historians. For a sample newsletter, write to Joe Koester at 249 Spring Gap South, Laurel, MD 20707. Phone (301) 725-4229.

[SWP]





## The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

**Meetings:** 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M.  
NBC Building - WKYS Conference Room,  
4001 Nebraska Avenue, Washington, DC.

**Nets:** 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 8:30 P.M. on  
145.45 MHz.

**Repeaters:** 444.100 PL-2/449.100 MHz,  
145.45/144.85 MHz.

**WWW Address:** <http://mvhsl.mbhs.edu/~fwright/MADRAS.html>

**Mailing:** P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902

**Information:** Larry Ziecheck - N3GKZ (301) 984-6113, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301) 984-6113.

Fall is already upon us and I am still wondering where the summer went. There was Field Day in June, our annual Picnic/ Barbecue in July and the MADRAS End of Summer dinner in August. Hard to believe we will be eagerly awaiting Thanksgiving and Christmas within the next few months.

September begins our regularly scheduled meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Mark your calendars. Bulletins will be sent to all our members announcing our guest speakers at the beginning of each month.

Nominations and elections are scheduled for October. We will hold nominations at our first meeting in October for officers and will vote these positions at our second meeting in October. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend these meetings,

Holding our net every Thursday during the summer months was very rewarding this year. MADRAS extends thanks to our net control, Quin Marsh - N3KGM, who faithfully announced and ran the net every week. Thanks also to all the members who remembered to check in at 8:30 on

Thursdays.

Have a Happy Halloween!

73's .... Jean - N3PLC



## Maryland Emergency Phone Net

**Meetings:** Nightly, 1800 Local, 3920 kHz

**Directors:** W3DQI, K30NU, WA1QAA, NF3X (Alternate).

**Manager:** K30RW; Secretary: WA3YLO;

**Treasurer:** KC3U

**FAR Representatives:** KC3ZJ, WA3FYZ

Well, it's been a long time since I've tickled these ivories, but I want to let everyone know that the MEPN is still alive and well, and in fact, branching out! Sometime during the spring a sister net, the Baltimore Traffic Net, started, initially manned mostly by MEPN members, but very quickly getting a life and crew of its own. The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club repeater on 146.670 (-) is the vehicle, every evening at 1830L. We invite everyone who is interest in traffic handling to tune in and participate. The repeater has very wide coverage, and is getting good participation from amateurs in its coverage area. Net manager for the BTN is AA3LN/Lee, in Joppatown.

At the recent directors' meeting, hosted by WA3YLO/Tony, several new initiatives were approved, and hopefully by next issue those will be finalized and I can report. Basically we want to start a Net Manager's session, probably on the weekend, so that the manager, the directors, the net controls, and other interested members can chat informally about what's good and bad about the net. (That should be interesting!!)

*Continued next page*



The Directors voted unanimously to support the October SET, as we have in the past. Also, the directors voted unanimously to support the monthly ARES/RACES statewide drills, which are run every 1st Tuesday of the month (except summer months).

These are VHF inter- and intra-county training sessions, with MEPN handling some of the long haul, statewide backbone communications.

On the medical front, we are pleased to report that K3USO is recovering from some reconstructive surgery (either hip or knee, I forget which), and will be back on the air as soon as he can negotiate the steps to the shack.

On the other side of the coin, I just learned that K3TNM/Bill will be undergoing major surgery (it's all major at his age HI HI. We wish Bill all the good luck and hopefully will have some good news to report next month.

Finally, thanks to the Antietam Radio Association for sponsoring another slam-bang Maryland QSO party. The MEPN was a good 'gathering ground' for pre- and post-net sessions...but don't pass the word....it made it harder for some of us locals.

Hope to see each of you ON THE AIR!

73,. PUD/W3DQI

## WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



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## Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club

**Meetings:** Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m. (except December) Mt. Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parker's Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308.

**Nets:** Every Tuesday at 9:00 p.m. Starts on 2 meters then moves to 10 meters on 28.408.

**Repeater:** WD4PDP 146.055 input / 146.655 output.

**Mailing:** Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club (MVARC) c/o Joe Salemi KR4CZ, P.O. Box 7234, Alexandria, VA 22307.

**Information:** John KI4HK, (703) 780-2882 or Julie KD4WSZ, (703) 799-9466 or Packet 145.650 KD4LST-1.

The Club has a new Publicity Chairperson. Mary Pat, KD4QWK has taken over the duties formerly done by Julie, KD4WSZ and Mary, N4TCI. Thanks to the outgoing crew and best wishes to the new appointee.

The August meeting featured a presentation by Lt. Curt Andrich, the Radio Project Officer for the Fairfax County Police Department. Lt. Andrich provided an interesting look into the workings and future plans for the county's public safety communications systems and answered many questions asked by the members.

The Coast Guard MARS station (NNN0NCG) support continues with training and operations. The following members are now certified to operate solo and train new students: KE4ALX, N4GUS, KE4SKW and KR4CZ. Lt. Rick David, WC4Q has taken over for Bert, N7PXG who transferred to a Cutter off the Oregon coast. Dale, KE4ALX has obtained his own MARS callsign, NNN0EWHT (the "T" is dropped after completion of training).



Frank, N4GUS, the local area Emergency Coordinator is looking for some volunteers to help provide communications for the Marine Corps Marathon in October.

Over 17000 runners are expected to participate in the event. This year's Marathon will test the use of a packet system to aid in reporting race and runner status and compiling reports.

The Club's co-sponsorship of Scouting Explorer Post 80 is becoming more involved. The Post is recruiting teenage members interested in communications and computers.

Bill, KE4BAE and Bill, KD4CNS and Demi Pulas have assembled a station at the First Christian Church, 2723 King Street in Alexandria. They erected a Tri-Bander beam and a vertical, and relocated electrical wiring. The Mount Vernon club is looking for donations of any communications or computer equipment or support material for the Post station. (Donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE.)

John WZ4A advised all that a new license class for Explorer Post 80 and for the general public will be starting on September 20. The class will include code training for those wanting it and will meet on Wednesdays at the First Christian Church, King Street, Alexandria. The class will be oriented toward the Novice and Technician licenses.

The repeater was bothered by some severe noise on several occasions in the last month. Monitoring 146.055 showed the noise to be a signal on the machine's input. The interference sounded like it was cyclic, had a 60 hertz component and was more prevalent at night.

Earlier investigations have confirmed several noise sources near the repeater site. During the period of this interference propagation ducting was also occurring. If anyone hears interference on the frequency please notify the repeater committee (WA3WEP or N4GUS) or mention it on the weekly net or BBS.



## Prince George's Wireless Association

**Meetings:** First working Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM; American Red Cross bldg., 6206 Belcrest Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782

Club Station: K3CEZ

**Mailing:** 4109 Kennedy St., Hyattsville, MD 20781

**Information:** Frank Holton - WA3ZMW  
(301) 927-1245

PGWA held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 1, 1995 at the Red Cross building in Hyattsville, MD. PGWA Radio Station, K3CEZ is also housed in the same building.

Franklin Holton, WA3ZMW, club president, brought the meeting to order at 7:50 P.M. The usual order of business followed with a discussion of how to improve and add to the roster of members.

WB3KXL, Dave Black, operates the K3CEZ packet station. This fall as the cooler weather comes along, we hope to hold instructional sessions in packet operation for club members.

After the business meeting adjourned, a video tape acquired from ARRL was shown by WA3ZMW. This tape was on more about amateur radio. These tapes are very interesting and add more enjoyment to the meetings.

On Wednesday, August 16, 1995, WA3ZMW received a call from the Disaster Control Officer, located in the Hyattsville Red Cross building. The call was made to place all PGWA members on the alert in case hurricane Felix approached our area. This is our purpose to act as communicators during Red Cross emergencies.

73's from Ken Easton, N3HLY





## Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

**Meetings:** First and Third Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. SVARC Club House 2921 Grace Street, Winchester, Virginia

**Repeater:** 146.22 In/ 146.82 Out

**Net:** Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net (SVEN) 7:15 daily on 146.22/146.82 Repeater

**Mailing:** P.O. Box 139 Winchester, 22604

**President:** Irv Barb KD4BHV (703) 955-1745

**Info:** George Ritter W4UGX (703) 662-0157

Its hard to believe fall has arrived! It doesn't seem all that long ago that we were complaining about the hot weather. Now that the Berryville Hamfest is over the SVARC would like to say thanks to all of you who joined at the "Mudfest". We sincerely appreciate your dedication! Despite the rain, the ticket sales were approximately equal the 1993 hamfest. The 1994 Hamfest was the best attended hamfest in our 47 year history.

Thirty applicants took exams at the Berryville Hamfest. Of these, seven upgraded their present licenses, eight earned new licenses, and 12 certificates were awarded for passing at least one element. The SVARC would like to thank Mountain ARC-VEC members George Baker (AJ3X), Gene Light (N3AFB), and Robert Nimick (WB3K0Z) for administering exams. SVARS members assisting the Mountain ARC-VEC team were Brian Cashell (AE4HO), Godfrey Miller (N8GM), Jack Weaver (WB4SXJ) and Fred Wetzell (W4KRT).

The following are the activities we have scheduled for October:

\* October 20-22 — SVARC members will be providing communications support and coordination for the Battle of Cedar Creek Re-enactment. This event depicts the Battle of Cedar

Creek from the Civil War.

\* October 28 — SVARC members will be providing communications support for the Old Dominion Endurance Ride in Fort Valley, Virginia. This 100 mile event presents unique challenges for communications support!

Well, that's all for this month.

73 'til November. KE4QJT/Laura



## St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association

**Meetings:** Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM, at the Lexington Park library

**Repeater:** K3HKI (146.64 MHz)

**Packet:** K3HKI.#SOMD.MD.USA.NOAM (145.75/145.01/440.975 MHz)

**Lunch Bunch:** Every Friday, listen on the 146.64 MHz repeater between 10-11:30 AM to find out where to meet

**Nets:** - "St. Mary's ARES", every Monday at 7:30 PM on 146.64 MHz - "Bottom County", every Tuesday at 7:30 PM on 146.64 MHz

**Address:** SMCARA, P.O. Box 743, California, Maryland 20619

**Newsletters:** Complimentary copies are available at local Radio Shack stores

The Saint Marys County Amateur Radio Association (SMCARA) continues to be very active in the Southern Maryland area. At the top of the activity schedule is a highly active ARES organization. Led by Al Barolet KJ3E, Emergency Coordinator for St Marys County, ARES continues to conduct monthly mini-SETs in preparation for the national SET in October. Having survived a threat from Felix, plans are in place for ARES support to St Marys County Emergency Operations Center for the Calvex exercise on September 19. August was a month SMCARA had to say good-



bye to their president and former secretary. Ben, KB3AMT and Stephanie, N3PJP and Mathew, a brand spanking new harmonic have moved to Jacksonville, Florida. They will be missed.

SMCARA is conducting a Novice Technician class beginning 6 September at the St Marys County Public Library in Leonardtown, Md from 1830 to 2030. An open VE session is scheduled for 29 November. Points of contact are B.J. Drury, N3RVX at 301-884-7175 or Mark Dudley, KE3OX at 301-863-6926.

Submitted by Mark Dudley, KE3OX  
SMCARA Secretary



### **The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.**

**Meetings:** Coordinating Committee (CC) normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 146.76 or 147.54 simplex.

**Address:** P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.

The Annual Meeting and election of officers for the coming year is tentatively scheduled for November 5th at 1:30 PM in the Frederick, Md., area. Notices will be sent to all members at their address of record in early October. Please make sure we have a valid address on file.

The agenda will be busy, with a couple of proposed by-law amendments including term limits for officers, plus some possible revisions to the coordination policies. Because of possible manpower limitations, the coordination procedures may have to be reorganized.

A few of the current officers are not planning to run for reelection, so we hope some of you will

step up to help keep T-MARC moving forward. If you can assist us, PLEASE come forward!

We also plan a discussion of the 6 and 2 Meter band plans, with possible changes to provide for increased packet activity in our area. Anyone interested in packet spectrum planning is urged to attend. There will also be a report on the October 7th National Coordinator's Conference at St. Louis.

Recent coordination actions include revision of the ARPSC's coordination on 146.625 in Arlington, Va., to delete the requirement for CTCSS coded access.

N8RCG has moved his 147.39 repeater near Romney, WV, to a new location outside of the T-MARC coordination area. His T-MARC coordination was canceled and he is applying for re-coordination with SERA. A new UHF link was coordinated for the NERA 449.975 repeater in D.C.

Our next question about coordination is "Are repeaters the only type of stations that can be coordinated?" No. In addition to repeaters, other operations which are associated with repeaters, such as radio remote-control frequencies, and links from a repeater's remote receivers to the main site are also coordinated.

"Remotebase" station's up- and down-links as well as other, more specialized, links are also coordinated. In addition, the coordinator can help with your understanding of the many inter-related F.C.C. Rules that apply to repeaters, remote-bases, links, remote control, auto-patches, cross-band operation, and so forth.

Continuing with the various band plans for the VHF and UHF bands, here is the current 2 Meter band plan:

144 - 148 MHz Band Plan

144.00 - 144.10 CW

144.10 - 144.50 CW, SSB, AM, Beacons,  
Satellites, etc. (No FM or

*Continued next page*



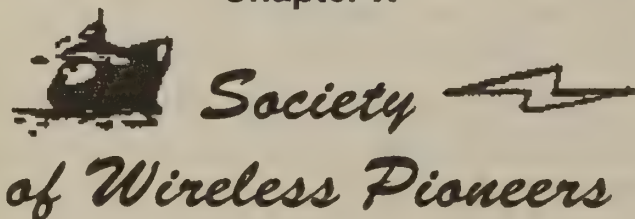
	digital operation)
144.51 -	144.89 Repeater inputs
144.91 -	144.99 Repeater inputs/outputs - Replexers (NO digital)
145.01 -	145.09 Digital
145.11 -	145.49 Repeater outputs
145.51 -	145.79 Digital
145.80 -	146.00 Satellites (NO FM or digital operation)
146.01 -	146.40 Repeater inputs
146.415 to 146.595	Voice Simplex (NO repeater or digital operation)
146.52	National simplex calling frequency
146.61 to 147.39	Repeater outputs
147.405 to 147.60	Voice Simplex (NO repeater or digital operation)
147.615 to 147.99	Repeater inputs

(Below 146 MHz, 20 kHz-spaced channels beginning at 144.51. Above 146 MHz, 15 kHz-spaced channels beginning at 146.01. 600 kHz repeater input/output spacing)

NOTE: As mentioned above, the 2 Meter band plan will be discussed at the annual meeting and might be revised.

73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO

### Chapter X



THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

**For Information Call  
(703) 536-9537**



## Voice of America Amateur Radio Club

**Meetings:** 2nd Friday at noon in Room 7139B, Wilbur J. Cohen Building, 330 Independence Ave SW., Washington, DC.

**Repeater:** W3DOS/K3VOA (144.59 MHz Input, 145.19 MHz Output).

**Net:** American Foreign Service Net meets  
Sundays: 1500 to 1530 UTC on 14316 KHz;  
1530 to 1600 UTC on 21416 KHz; 1600 to  
1630 UTC on 28416 KHz.

The Voice of America Amateur Radio Club (K3VOA) held its regular monthly meeting at VOA Headquarters in Southwest Washington on Friday, 11 August 1995. The following attended:

Stephen W. Bratcher, WE5X, Secretary;  
Hubert B. Katz, KB3TB, Vice President & Trustee;  
Fred L. Haney, AC4IC;  
Carl P. Lagoda, W3BA;  
Gary R. Shirk, KE1AT/CN8YY/SV?JF;  
Richard Van Doran, KB4NRM;

**CONTESTING:** Over the weekend of 12 - 13 August, WE5X operated from K3VOA, making over 200 QSOs in the MD-DC QSO PARTY. Club President Al Brown, WA3FYZ, operated mobile on Saturday and from his home QTH on Sunday.

**FOREIGN SERVICE NET:** Ex-VOA monitor Jim Henderson, KF7E ("Kentucky Fried Seven Elephants") has been a regular check-in from New Mexico during the Summer doldrums, his NASA work schedule permitting.

**OVERSEAS:** VOA's Gaines Johnson, N8FSD, on his second tour in Belize, has received his local callsign: V31GX.

**TRAVEL:** Steve Bratcher, WE5X, plans to make a VOA monitoring trip to include Vladivostok, Hong Kong, and Beijing, in late



September. Along the way, he plans to see Ben Blatt, VR2LA/WM3C, VOA's (monitoring) man in Hong Kong.

**GUESTS AT CLUB MEETINGS:** Anyone interested in attending club meetings (Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8) should arrange admission by telephoning Al Brown at (202) 619-2020, Steve Bratcher at (202) 619-1763, or Dex Anderson at (202) 619-2597. The Wilbur J. Cohen Building occupies the block located between 3rd and 4th Streets SW and between Independence Avenue and C Street SW. The nearest Metrorail stop is Federal Center Southwest.



### **Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.**

**Meetings:** Second Tuesday of each month at Springwoods and Chaucer, Lake Ridge, VA.

**Net:** Monday nights at 2000 on 147.24 with 224.78 link repeater on 147.24 MHz, 144.99 MHz simplex PL-100 repeater 444.90 MHz, repeater 224.780 MHz, packet lan on 145.07.

**Mailing:** PO Box 112, Woodbridge, VA 22194

**Information:** Jim Stearns, KC4ZHQ (703) 670-3480.

### **Monthly Meeting**

WWI held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, 8 August 1995 at the Canterbury Woods Recreation Center in Lake Ridge. The Club Secretary, Paul, N3DAN, filled in for the Club's President and Vice President who were out of town, and called to meeting to order at 7:30.

No special program was scheduled. One of the main discussions during the meeting was on a ruling about discussing listing prices on the Monday night WWI Net, Swap and Shop. A motion was made, second and passed to the listing of prices over the repeaters.

Another discussion was on relocation of some

equipment for the DX PacketCluster, (Steve N4SR), so as to give better coverage to the Fredricksburg and surrounding area. A separate meeting was set up to address this item.

### **Education**

A request for support of the Fred Lynn Middle School Amateur Radio Program was presented by Jim, KC4ZHQ. The request came from Ms. Stohlman, one of the teachers that will coordinate the program.

Action was turned over to the Education Committee, Cliff, KO4FM for further investigation and action. Anyone one interested in assisting either through donation of equipment or expertise please contact Cliff or myself, Jim, KC4ZHQ.

### **Contesting**

Jack, WB4NFS gave an overview on the up and coming 1995 September VHF QSO Party and provided a hand out to all concerned that identifies band captains, required equipment, and food requirements.

Also the club will be participating in the CQ World Wide DX Phone Contest operating Multi-multi Class from Mike's, KA4RRU, QTH, signing as W4IY.

### **Leaks.....**

Since everyone in this area are well versed on "News Leaks".....I have one. Rumors has it that the MONTSERRAT DXPEDITION team of Woodbridge Wireless members and others operating from Montserrat during the ARRL DX phone contest, VP2MFM accumulated a very large score which will place them Number 1. The operators were WB4NFS, WD4KXB, KJ4VG, KA4RRU, KO4FM, WA4PGM, W2HPF, and W4MYA. Anyone that work them and have not received their QSL should contact Denis, WD4KXB.

*Continued next page*



## Woodbridge Wireless, Inc. Sponsored Contest.

WWI sponsors an inter-club contest in the November ARRL Sweepstakes. Plaques are awarded for Single Op/Multi-Op CW and Phone high scores. Everyone that turns in a score will receive a Certificate.

Only active WWI Members may participate in the WWI Club competition. This is in addition to the ARRL awards of a pin (100 or more contacts) and coffee cup ("clean sweep") awards.

## Emergency Committee

During the July monthly meeting, guest speakers Bob, N4SCK, ARES Section Emergency Coordinator, and Dave, AC4DS, the Prince William County Emergency Coordinator, presented an overview of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Upon completion, 42 members were issued ARES Identification Cards. The WWI Emergency Committee now has 54 members, which include 15 four-wheel drive vehicles and drivers, 4 Emergency Communication Vehicle (bus) drivers, and 13 direction finding units.

Also, WWI has emergency communications facilities set-up at the Potomac Hospital, and the Prince William County Communications Center at the McCoart complex.

This is in addition to the Mobile Emergency Communication Vehicle (HF, VHF, UHF, Fire/Rescue, Police, and Cellular operating positions) and the Club's four repeaters (two of which have emergency power).

**YOUR LICENSE IS A PRIVILEGE AND  
YOUR ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY IS  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.**

73's, WWI FAR Rep, Jim, KC4ZHQ

## ARRL Newsline, Continued from page 19

Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. The League argues that there is no reason why the (required) three VE's should not be held jointly responsible for the proper conduct of an examination, and said that the FCC's plan would undermine the integrity, both perceived and actual, of the VE program.

Forth, the League supports a proposal that the FCC issue special one by one call signs for certain special event stations.

Finally, the ARRL also supports allowing portable indicators to be sent before, after, or both before and after the station call sign, as the operator chooses.

Action on most of these matters is expected before years end.

## SHIP TO SHORE HELP

Ham radio became a communications lifeline for a pair of hams involved in a cruise ship mishap. On the evening of June 10th, the ship Royal Majesty ran aground on a sandbar, off Massachusetts' Nantucket Island, as it made its way back from Bermuda to Boston. Passengers included Arnie Zunick, K1BPM, and Thad Litchfield, K1AFS, and their wives. By the next morning the ship's satellite telephone communications were overloaded by the 1000 some passengers trying to reach their families and friends.

Zunick and Litchfield climbed to the uppermost portion of the ship with 2 meter handhelds and listened for active repeaters. Their timing was right, signals were good, and the two were able to autopatch through their local club repeater in Danvers, Massachusetts to their families, assuring them that everything was okay. They then made more patches for other passengers while their batteries lasted.

*Continued next page*



Later in the day it became obvious that the ship would not be off the sandbar that day and would spend another night aground. With recharged batteries, Zunick and Litchfield this time were unable to raise the Danvers repeater. They did find an open machine on 146.88 MHz belonging to the Hartford area Insurance City Repeater Club over which they contacted Chuck Motes, K1DFS, in Plainville, Connecticut. Motes took all the traffic and made telephone calls informing families of the situation and the fact that the ship and its passengers would be stuck for another day.

## **CAL CALL ID**

Federal officials have cleared the way for Caller ID in California. This, with a ruling that callers seeking confidentiality are the ones responsible for having their numbers blocked. Already available in 46 states, Caller ID has been held up in California because the state's Public Utilities Commission imposed privacy requirements that Pacific Bell said made the service prohibitive.

Caller ID gives telephone users the option of knowing the origin of incoming phone calls before they pick up the receiver.

## **NEWSLINE SUPPORT FUND REPORT**

In the month of July we heard from the Cincinnati Chapter of the OMNI Electronic Association, the Riverside, California County Amateur Radio Association. We need to hear from more of you to keep these newscasts coming.

Remember the clubs that support with the club name, repeater call and service area get a mention during the newscast id break.

## **TASMA ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT**

Twenty nine year old Carl Cockrell, AB6FC, says that he is going to try to reunite the feuding factions of Southern California's 2 meter FM community. On Friday, August the 4th, Cockrell was elected in a lopsided 360 to 1 vote as the new

president of Southern California's Two Meter Area Spectrum Management Association. His election comes only a month after his predecessor Sidney Ratus, N6OMS was ousted in a recall election that left bitter feelings among area hams. Cockrell says that the most important job he has is saving the organization by bringing the various factions of the two meter community back together:

"What I would like to do this year, if nothing else, would be to reorganize TASMA into a body that will work together. And work with the repeater owners and the users also. I know that a lot of people look at TASMA and criticize it for being mainly controlled by users, but you have to remember these users are using repeaters and they are a large power source. It is similar to the new no code technicians that have come on-line and how they are affecting what the league does and what the FCC does." Carl Cockrell, AB6FC.

Cockrell may well have his hands full in trying to get the various interests to cooperate. The issue that has brought TASMA to the brink of oblivion is the organizations strong stand in favor of repeater user rights. Its the reason that many repeater owner operators have abandoned TASMA membership.

And Cockrell has another major obstacle to overcome. The same problem almost every coordinator across the land is facing. Its the attitude on the part of many repeater owner operators that they already have their channel pairs. That their repeaters are on the air with signals cast in concrete. They ask why there should be any repeater council, or for that matter, why anyone else should be allowed to put another repeater on the overburdened two meter band.

Meantime, at least three mini two meter coordination councils have set up shop in Southern California. Each is claiming that it is the replacement for TASMA. Only one is really active in soliciting the support of repeater owner operators. Only time will tell if any will be successful, or if Carl Cockrell, AB6FC will pull

*Continued next page*



off a miracle and bring everyone together once again.

And for those of you wondering why we are putting such emphasis on this regional story. The fact is that the predicament facing coordinators who are trying to keep some semblance of order on our repeater bands is not limited to Southern California.

Other crowded urban areas are facing the same problems of overcrowding, limited spectrum and new hams waiting in line demanding the right to put up new, wide coverage machines.

The only difference is that it hasn't yet exploded where you are. In Southern California, it already has. And if you close your eyes to the problems facing your voluntary repeater coordination council, your area will be next.

## NARCC SAYS YES TO MEETING

The President of the organization that coordinates ham radio repeaters in Northern California says that the upcoming National Conference of Frequency Coordinators is a meeting that is long overdue.

Don Smith, W6NKF, who was recently elected for a second time to head up the Northern Amateur Relay Council says that he is looking forward to the October 7th meeting in St. Charles Missouri because it will be a chance to finally present his groups ideas:

"We are kind of curious to know which way coordination is going to go into the future. We want to know whether we wind up with national coordination or are we going to have regional coordination. We are in the coordinating business. At least we try to be in the coordinating business and we are concerned just exactly what the agenda is for this meeting. What is going to come out of it. Just exactly how coordination is going to work or fit in to the long range planning in amateur radio." Don Smith, W6NKF.

Smith says that the biggest problems facing most coordinators is recognition by the ham community and where to put new repeaters. In many urbanized areas there are no more channel pairs available:

"One of the pressing problems facing coordinators is that we don't seem to have any backing from the FCC or anyone else. We seem to be challenged at every turn. Who names you the coordinator. WE have traditionally been the coordinator for many years. Some of our problems are we are running out of frequencies, everybody and their brother wants to put a repeater on the air. We bend over backwards trying to accommodate all those we can. When we do run out of frequencies then somebody comes up and says "Well, to heck with you. We are going to put one on the air anyway."

We are trying to figure out if we are banging our head against the wall or is there going to be some organized coordination that has some teeth in it." Smith.

Smith says he is aware that some coordinators favor a limitation of one repeater per ham, but he has a different view. Smith says that large clubs and repeater networks mean stability for the average ham on the air:

"We do have quite a few systems up here that are multiple repeater owners. In some ways that is not too bad an idea because at least it gives a strong group or a large club the stability to operate a system vs many of the, I am not belittling anybody by saying this, but we have quite a few repeaters on the air that are tying up the channel that are owned by one person that has 3 or 4 users. I think that is a waste of spectrum, myself." Smith

Don Smith says that he will be traveling to St. Charles with an open mind and a mandate of cooperation and trust. He says that this the only way to make a meeting like this be a success.

*Continued next page*



## WORLD CLASS FOXHUNTING AT HAMCON '95

Joe Mell, K0OV says that he and others are planning a very special hidden transmitter hunt for the 1995 Southwestern Division ARRL Convention on the Queen Mary over Labor Day weekend. Joe says that you will need some direction finding gear, but you won't need a car for the hunt this time. That's because HAMCON 95 will feature the first international rules foxhunt ever staged in California, with hundreds of dollars in cash prizes available for the winners! It's all on foot, no vehicles allowed.

The HAMCON Foxhunt '95 will be the last event of the convention, beginning early Sunday afternoon September 3rd at an outdoor venue not far from the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California.

It will be open to anyone of any age who has registered at the convention. Families are welcome, but all entrants will compete independently and each entrant must bring his or her own RDF equipment. All transmitters will be on two meter FM.

Similar to IARU competitions, there will be separate divisions for various age groups. The Southern California Six Meter Club is organizing this event. For more information you can contact Joe Mell, K0OV, direct.

### ATV LIST

KB8WBK says via packet that he is compiling a list of Amateur Television repeaters. He says that not all are listed in the ARRL Repeater Directory and asks that if yours is one not listed to please forward to him the information on your system. A copy of your groups newsletter, if you have one would also be appreciated. Dave says that he will send a copy of his completed list to all who reply. Send your information to David Hiner, KB8WBK, 45 Sheppard Drive, Pataskala, Ohio 43062.

## IEE MEET

Overseas, the United Kingdoms Institute of Electronic Engineers will be holding an International Conference celebrating 100 Years of Radio between the 5th and 7th of September. Convention venue is London's Savoy Plaza. One of the sessions titled Tuning and the Amateur is chaired by Pat Hawker, G3VA. Other lecturers at the conference will include Professor Martin Sweeting, G3YJO, from the University of Surrey UoSAT program.

### AMSAT UK COLLOQUIUM NEWS

This year's Amsat UK Space Colloquium was attended by 113 people from five continents. Maybe the biggest news from this years gathering in England was the weather. As usual, it was hot in and around the University of Surrey, but about three hours after everyone went home there was a cloudburst with lightning and heavy rain. And we do mean rain!

Reports from the scene say that the area outside the lecture hall was under about six inches of water. There was almost as much water inside as the roof couldn't stand the strain. The event did not provide as much in the way of hot news as in the past but the lectures were all well received and very informative. A full report on this years Colloquium is available from many AMSAT organizations, worldwide.

### SA SAT TV

A group of South African companies plans to introduce satellite TV at a startup cost of 1,500 rand, that's about \$420 plus a monthly fee.

With the launch of Pan American Satellite Corp's fourth satellite PAS-4, a consortium headed by the South African Broadcasting Corporation and communications services company MultiChoice wants to bring television to every South African.

*Continued next page*



And an independent company, African Satellite Entertainment Corporation plans to start beaming programmed to South Africa using the Intelsat 704 satellite by September 1st.

### **VCR FLASH**

Here is a true bit of believable trivia for you. The San Francisco Chronicle reports that a recent Telescoop survey found that at any given time of the day the clocks on 17 percent of Americans' VCRs are flashing 12:00. Like that's hard to believe.

### **DX-HEARD**

In DX, we have more information on the upcoming Heard Island operation. Expedition leader Ralph Fodor, K0IR says that the HF gear for the operation now includes six HF transceivers and six or seven Yagis with monobanders for 15, 20, and 40, and verticals for 40, 80, and 160. There will be a separate satellite station manned by PA3DUU.

Ralph says that the amount of time that the operators have to spend dealing with the weather will dictate how elaborate their operation can be, but they will give first priority to being on all the open bands. If circumstances allow, they will attempt to put beacons on 10 and 160 meters.

Ralph adds that he would like to hear your ideas and suggestions. You can E-mail them to [rfedor@cloudnet.com](mailto:rfedor@cloudnet.com)

### **INTERNATIONAL LICENSE UPDATE**

The Federal Communications Commission has assigned RM-8677 to an ARRL petition for rule making to implement U.S. participation in an International Amateur Radio Permit. A permit covering countries in the Western Hemisphere.

As previously reported, such a permit will allow temporary operation in any other country in the Americas that has signed the agreement. The

only other requirement being that a person has to be a licensed ham in his or her home country.

The comment cutoff deadline on this matter is August 31st and the reply comment deadline is set for September 30th.

### **KV4FZ LICENSE HEARING**

On the legal front, Herbert L. Schoenbohm, KV4FZ is waiting to hear weather or not the FCC will renew his ham radio license. This following an August 8th hearing in Washington, DC.

The FCC took the unusual step of designating Schoenbohm's license renewal request for public hearing following complaints. This, following the loss of his appeal of a 1992 conviction in federal district court.

The FCC says that Schoenbohm's conviction is relevant to evaluating the likelihood that he will comply with the Commissions rules as a licensee in the Amateur service. Issues addressed at the hearing included Schoenbohm's qualification to renew his license and whether or not such a renewal will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. A final decision in this matter is probably three to six months away.

### **CONGRESSIONAL VISITATION**

The FCC has come under direct congressional scrutiny. House Republicans bent on shrinking the FCC spent much of Monday, July 10th touring the agency and apparently came away with a newfound appreciation of the regulatory body.

Eight members of the House telecommunications subcommittee chaired by Texas Republican Jack Fields took the FCC tour.

Fields has scheduled hearings for later this summer on plans to radically downsize the agency that regulates broadcasters, cable TV operators and telephone companies.



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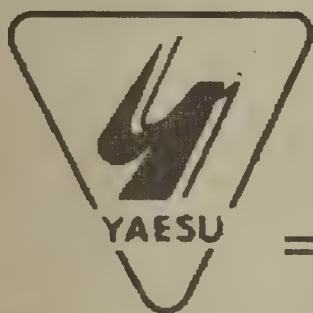
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**WANTED:** Home theater HiFi receiver wanted (has several VCR and audio inputs/outputs); high audio wattage output rating not necessary. (703) 370-1880; (703) 370-9049 fax. Alexandria. [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Complete Kenwood HF station: TS-830S SSB transceiver, VFO-230, SP-230 speaker, AT-230 antenna tuner, MC-50 microphone. Plus, Mosley Classic-33 Tri-band antenna, antenna rotor, 40 foot tower. First offer over \$1000.00. Write to: WA3WAN, P.O. Box 309, Stevensville, MD 21666. [10/95]

**WANTED** for museum: Apple-1 and other pre-1980 microcomputers, also early microcomputer journals, newsletters and advertising literature. (703) 231-6478 or (703) 763-2321. [11/95]

**WANTED:** WRL Globe Chief 90, 90A, or Deluxe CW transmitter. Prefer VGC to EC, complete, undamaged, original & unmodified (i.e., original knobs, meter, cabinet screws, etc); fully operational (no bad tubes, pots, caps, transformers, etc.), with original manual. Millen No. 90672 Antenna Bridge, clean, complete and undamaged, prefer-

ably with manual. Also interested in other '50s to '70s HF tube-type CW transmitters, 50 to 150-watt power input (Drake, Johnson, Heath, WRL, Eico, Lettline, etc.) including homebrew rigs, either functional or as parts sources. Contact Paul Bock, K4MSG, (703) 560-5000 ext 2062 in Falls Church, VA (days), or (703) 882-4745 in Hamilton/Purcellville area (eves/weekends), or e-mail to [pbock@melpar.esys.com](mailto:pbock@melpar.esys.com). [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Ten-Tec Titan linear amplifier \$1900, Yaesu FL-7000 solid state linear amplifier \$1250. Cushcraft A4S beam with 40 meter adaptor and Cushcraft 6 element 6 meter beam \$150. Yaesu FT-757 transceiver with matching H.D. power supply and auto-tuner \$750. Drake TR4310 transceiver with R4245 receiver (pro versions of TR7 and R7) with Drake desktop cabinets \$2200. All equipment in good condition with factory cartons (except for beams). Sig, WA9INK, phone/fax (202) 467-0053. [11/95]

**WANTED:** Esterline-Angus paper chart recorder or equivalent. Reasonable condition. Also Esterline pens, ink, paper. Walt, W4LTU (703) 882-3782. [10/95]



**FOR SALE:** Kenwood TS-450S/AT transceiver, with antenna tuner and CW filter \$900, obo. Kenwood PS-31, 20.5 amp power supply \$150, obo. MFJ model-948 300 watt antenna tuner, \$100, obo. Call Carl, W4ACM, (703) 360-4373. [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Aluminum tower, 45 ft., self-supporting (no guys), two tubular pieces, top one tilts. Light and strong. Easy to erect, maintain, etc. \$475. Further info/specs contact: Malcolm Ringel, WV3G, Saint Michaels, MD. (410) 745-6170 or @KE3Q (packet). [11/95]

**WANTED:** Crank up tower mounted on trailer. KK4WW (703) 231-6478. [10/95]

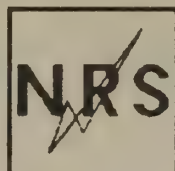
**WANTED:** BC348 in good condition. Floyd Martin, W4RW, 17 Oak Lane, Sterling, VA 20165. (703) 430-2499. [11/95]

**FOR SALE:** Kenwood TS-520SE transceiver with DG-5 digital readout. Also Kenwood AT-200 antenna tuner. Ten-Tec 290 dummy. Package only \$400.00. Works great! Call Bill, WD4GOZ @ (410) 721-4255. [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Commodore 64 computer, monitor 1702, disk drive 1541, Star SG-10 dot matrix printer, joysticks, Mitey Mo modem, Cardco CARD+G parallel printer interface, Geos flight simulator two, printing paper, extra printer ribbons, cheat sheets, disk storage cabinet with several disks and manuals. Package deal only \$225. Wood computer desk with printer stand. Slight crack to right top side of desk \$100. If all above items sold together will sell at \$300. Gregory Sheppard, KA3DBG, 4402 Jupiter St., Rockville, MD (301) 946-6460. [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Kenwood 950 SDX \$2,900.00. Yeasu dual band HH model 727R 5 watt and .5 watt with NC-15 desk top charger \$185.00. Timewave DSP 59 Plus, version 3.0, \$225.00. Datong FL-2 audio filter \$135.00. Bob, W4JNN (703) 560-7161. [10/95]

**FOR SALE:** Icom AT-500 antenna tuner, mint condition with original box and manual, \$380.00. John, KAØSEY (301) 855-0198. [10/95]



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### TIDBITS

The New England DX convention and dinner will be held on October 7, 1995 at the Student Center of Worcester State College. The Dinner speaker will be Wayne Mills, N7NG. info, contact Gary Young, K2AJY at 617-592-6934.

The Beijing International DX Convention will be held on October 13-16. Contact K5FUV at ARRL HQ for info on this event.

With sadness, I have to report that KB4C, Miriam Smith has passed away. She was the Production and Circulation part of QRZ DX and the wife of Carl Smith, N4AA of Asheville, NC.



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The Foundation's Survivor's Assistance Program has been in operation for many years and has accomplished a great deal for the families of our Silent Keys. The program offers to help widows (and other family members) evaluate and dispose of radio equipment in an Amateur's estate. Listings of Estate Sales are carried in the Shack Sales of Auto-Call magazine free of charge, and major items may be offered for sale at local hamfests, etc. No fee or commission is charged the families.

One other option that should be considered is donating equipment to a club taking a tax write-off for the charitable contribution. The Survivor's Assistance Program can help you find a club that will make good use of the equipment. Some commercial operations are also willing to purchase the complete list of equipment and clear everything out at once. This may be the quickest solution in disposing of an estate.

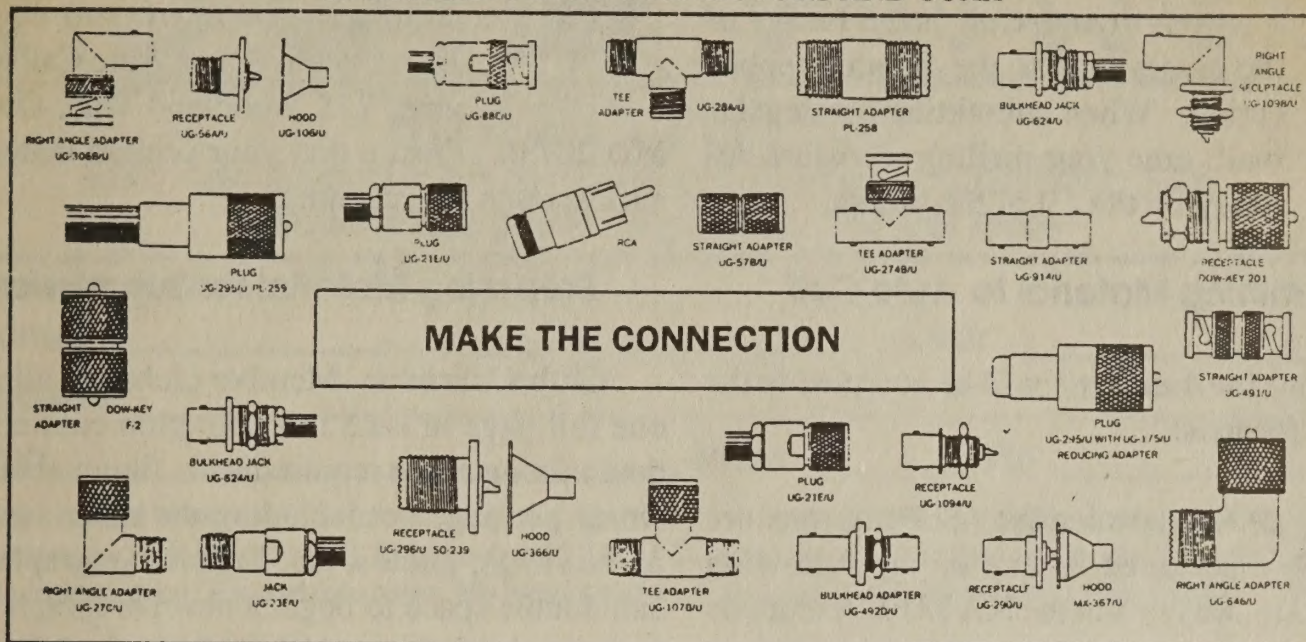
Every ham is encouraged to maintain a list of his/her radio equipment, with realistic evaluations, and instructions on the disposition of any specific items you would like to have go to a special person or organization. Keep your family advised of your wishes.

For more information about the Survivor's Assistance Program contact any local Foundation member club or call Tony Young/WA3YLO at (301) 262-1917.



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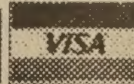
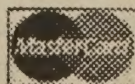
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**Regular Mail:** Mail typewritten or computer generated hard copy to: John Queen, Editor, *Auto Call Magazine*, 755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736. Ensure that your printed material is dark enough for scanning.

## Submitting Material to *Auto Call*

Submissions for *Auto Call* will be accepted in the following formats:



**Electronically:** Submissions are accepted in any of the following ways: Via the KA3RFE Annapolis Packet BBS at (410) 268-6817 or via packet on 145.69 or 147.57, E-mail message or upload file to KAØSEY. Or via any of the major on line services directly or over the Internet. Use the applicable format exactly as follows:

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**Prodigy** - johnqueen@aol.com



**Computer Disk:** Submissions are accepted on 3.5" or 5.25" computer disk, in either Macintosh or MS-DOS format, using Word, WordPerfect, or standard ASCII text files. Write your name, telephone number, and club name on the disk. Submit graphic files (club logos, etc) in an EPS or TIFF format. Please verify the readability of your computer files before sending. If you want your computer disk returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with .32 postage. Otherwise, disks will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

## Preparing Material for Submission

**Club Columns:** Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information ONLY when different from what was published from previous month.

**Hamfests/Events:** Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

**Photographs:** The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.





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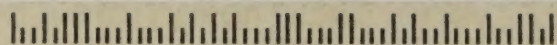
# Area Club Meetings - October 1995

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> DOSARC	<b>3</b> Antietam PG Wireless	<b>4</b> Baltimore Montgomery	<b>5</b> Anne Arundel	<b>6</b> Mobileers Shenandoah	<b>7</b> Green Mtn.
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Carroll Co.	<b>10</b> Fauquier Frederick Woodbridge	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon	<b>13</b> VOA Vienna So. Maryland	<b>14</b> North Point
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> OVHA Sterling Park	<b>17</b> Antietam Arlington	<b>18</b> BARC HEMARC Goddard Montgomery	<b>19</b> Anne Arundel	<b>20</b> Shenandoah	<b>21</b> Capital City
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Columbia	<b>25</b> Moose Laurel Carroll Co.	<b>26</b> MADRAS St. Mary's	<b>27</b> Central MD Vienna	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> T-MARC Green Mtn.	<b>31</b>				



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